

BELLE MEADE



Montessori School | Day Camp | Farm | B & B



Welcome Noah Keller!



Hi, my name is Noah. I like extreme sports involving mainly water and snow. My favorite food is lasagna. My favorite subject is Science, but lunch isn't so bad either. :)

Integrated Science Projects

In science class, we are all doing our own projects and trying to prove specific hypothesis. Sofie did a experiment by dropping an egg of the balcony in different containers filled with different things such as cotton, Nutella, and slime. Sabrina was trying to start fires with different objects such as water bottles and a magnifying glass but the test was unsuccessful; she was unable to start a fire with a water bottle (although it was an interesting concept). -Wes

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Snow Ball

On Friday, February 16 from 6-9 p.m., Belle Meade will host its annual Snow Ball Party. Everyone's invited! So you should bring ALL your friends! There will be the following activities: The Donut Game (eating doughnuts suspended from the ceiling), The Newlywed's Game, Telestrations, and Apples-to-Apples, as well as card readings by Madam Val. There will also be food and live music! -Alyssa

STEAM Workshop

On Monday, February 19 (President's Day), Belle Meade will host a "STEAM Workshop" day from 10:30am-2:30pm. We will focus on two design and performance projects: 1. *Building a Trebuchet* and 2. *Performing a Dramatic Literary Skit*. Students, parents, family members, and friends will participate together in small groups to complete each project during both the morning and afternoon sessions with an hour for lunch (12-1pm). Please bring a bag lunch and your most creative self. See you there!



Snowboarding

In January through the first week of February, we do winter activities such as skiing and snowboarding. Each student gets to pick between those two options and three students (Sabrina, Flora, Will) have chosen to do snowboarding. For the first four weeks, the students have an instructor and for the next two weeks, they have free time to choose what they wish to do on the slopes. "The view is amazing from the top of the slope, and the way down makes you feel free," said Flora. "I love going down the slopes; it feels like you're flying when you go down fast. I really enjoyed the view from the top of the slope, too, and I can't wait until the next time! (The Black diamond is so cool!)" commented Sabrina. Sabrina & Flora



Skiing

After our morning classes, we have a quick lunch and then go to the van to pack up all of our skiing and snowboarding stuff. The van ride is usually loud going to Massanutten, but coming back everyone is tired and just wants to sleep. For me, skiing at Massanutten was very unnerving and scary for the first part, but when you actually get into it, it's very fun. It's sort of the rush that's fun; you go down fast, but as the snow starts to level it sort of sinks in that you just did that. -Lilie

CLASSES:

Mathematics - Middle School Math and Pre-Algebra students are studying exponents, factoring integers, and volume of solid shapes; Algebra 1 students are studying polynomials and factors; Geometry students are working on popsicle stick projects; Calculus is working on derivatives and inverse derivatives.

Sciences - In Biology, students are studying genetics and the workings of photosynthesis (along with all the accompanying "craziness"); Integrated Science students are working on scientific research projects and conducting experiments to prove their various hypotheses. In Physics, Oliver is studying rotational motion.

English/Language Arts - English 1 students have recently finished reading Gary Paulsen's *Dogsong* and are working on a class project about arctic animals and culture. English 2 students have finished reading Gary Paulsen's *Sentries* and are discussing the various topics that come up in the book. English 3 is studying Sophocles' tragic play, *Oedipus Rex*, and studying the characteristics of ancient dramatic writing. Humanities I & II students are working on their Discovery Projects for class.

Geography & History - In World Geography, students are working on projects about Asian countries. World History students are writing research papers on ancient civilizations.

Languages - Spanish 1 is studying basic grammar and verb usage, and Spanish 2 is writing a Spanish "telenovela" (soap opera) to present in class. Latin 1 is translating stories and Latin 2 is studying grammar.

Arts & Music - For Art class, students are working on various projects with Becky and Regina. In Music, students are practicing for the trimester dinner and Bland Music Contest.

PE & Electives - In PE, students have been canoeing at the pond when it's warm, engaging in indoor activities when it's cold, and skiing/snowboarding at Massanutten on Thursdays. For riding, students have started doing more trail rides while Sofie and Susan are working on training the new pony, Breezer, in the ring. Currently, for electives, we are preparing for and planning our spring dramatic performance (*Belle Meade Skit-story: Belle Meade's History of the World*).

CALENDAR by Thomas

February

Thursday, 1st-----skiing
 Friday, 2nd-----Groundhog Day
 Thursday, 8th-----skiing
 Friday, 9th-----Val’s Birthday
 Wednesday, 14th-----Valentine’s Day, Ash Wednesday
 Friday, 16th—SnowBall, Chinese New Year
 Monday, 19th--President’s Day

March

Thursday, 1st-----2nd trimester dinner
 Friday, 2nd-----Conferences-no school
 Monday, 5th----Staff work day-no school
 Thursday, 8th-----Performance-dress rehearsal, International John’s birthday
 Friday, 9th-----Spring performance
 Saturday, 10th-----Spring performance
 Sunday, 11th----Daylight savings begins
 Wednesday, 14th----Wendy’s Birthday
 Saturday, 17th----St. Patrick’s Day
 Tuesday, 20th-----Susan’s Birthday, first day of spring
 Friday, 23rd----Shakespeare theatre trip
 Sunday, 25th----Spring Open House, Palm Sunday
 Friday, 30th----Good Friday
 Saturday, 31st--Passover begins
April 2-6—Spring Break

The Personality Trait Song

by Noah (to the tune of *Have a Holly Jolly Christmas*)

I'm a classy, sassy person
 and when you walk down the street
 say goodbye to apple pies
 ‘cause apple pies are lies.

History is blistery and in some cases a mystery
 rotisserie chicken was invented after
 World War II because people got tired of
 plain chicken so they spiced it up a bit.

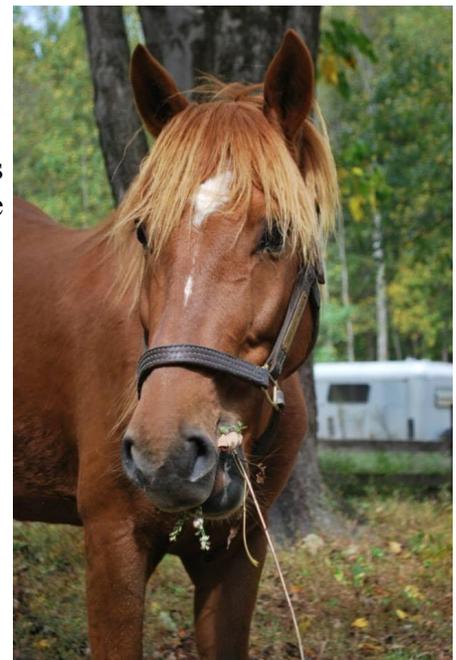
SCHOOL/FARM:



Farm & CSA - On the farm things have been slow, egg count is still pretty low. Due to the groundhog’s recent decision, we will be having 6 more weeks of winter. In the garden, we have winter produce: spinach, mache, sprouts, and potatoes. Wendy is planning the seeds to plant for the spring garden. Students will help water and care for the seedlings.

-Will

Belle Meade has a new member of the equestrian team. His name is Breezer! He is around 13.2 hands and is a tiny chestnut pony. Breezer is still being trained and is a natural jumper. He still has a lot to learn, but when he is fully trained he will be an excellent pony. -Sofie



Senior Capstone Project

Oliver has started working on his *Senior Capstone Project* that will continue through the rest of the year and culminate with a final presentation at his graduation in May. Over the years, students have chosen various topics and fields of study for their projects. Music, art, and engineering have been the focuses of many in the past. Students have painted beautiful murals in the school, assisted with designing and building our Adventure Course, assembled and programmed robots or drones, and engaged in a number of other fascinating projects. Oliver was deciding on two top ideas: rebuilding a car and making an instrument. He has chosen to focus on making an instrument (most likely a guitar). "It's a really cool skill to have; something I will use again and often," said Oliver. When asked why he chose making an instrument over rebuilding a car, he responded: "It would be really hard to pull off. First of all, I would need somewhere to work on it (like a garage) and I don't really have one, and I don't really think I would be able to finish it by the end of the school year."

My Dogsong - by Lucas

- 1 On the first day of Rudy
My puppy gave to me
1 missing shoe
- 2 On the second day of Gizmo
My dowgy gave to me
2 destroyed cushions.
- 3 On the third day of Rudy
My puppy gave to me
3 bitten UPS drivers.
- 4 On the fourth day of Gizmo
My dowgy gave to me
4 eaten packages.
- 5 On the fifth day of Rudy
My puppy gave to me
5 muddy floors.

MySong - by Charlotte

In the world that I live in
I am a careless flowing river in beat with my melody

In this world that I live in
I laugh and smile in field of amber grain and cry in cave of stone

In this world that I live in
my heart raises in hope when there's food on the table for
without it I shall surely starve

In this world that I live in
forever and ever I could go on sleeping for hours and hours
on end

In this world that I live in
I learn the old way of healing so that it and I may carry on
healing

In this world that I live in
the only thing that is my hope and my life is my family for
they are my rock

In this world that I live in
there I one thing that I love it is my friends for they are the
anchor on the ship
that is my soul to keep it from drifting in to the sea of lone-
liness

In this world that I live in
In this world that I live in



Humanities Discovery Projects

Alyssa has chosen to study French, Indian, and Chinese Cuisines. She intends to compare and contrast the different ingredients, cooking styles, and tastes. “Food is good, and it’s fun to see how the different regions are similar,” commented Alyssa. (She also wants a reason to cook and bring food to class!)

Thomas is studying the science behind the microwave oven. He hopes to learn how they work (in general). “I like microwaves,” he said.

Will is studying “smithing” (blacksmithing, metalsmithing/forging, etc). “It’s one of the only ancient arts that can be better than factory-made stuff,” he said.

Sofie is researching Mongolian Horses & the infamous Mongolian Derby horse race. She chose this topic because it interests her. “They just go and get on random horses and go for 100-something miles!”

Lilie has chosen to study the axolotl (an amphibian “walking fish”). “They are very interesting amphibians and are very cute. Not many people know about them, and I think that more people need to know about them because they are critically endangered.”

Sabrina took some time to decide between two topics: chocolate and photography. She finally settled on photography (with help from Sofie and a coin toss). “I have always liked taking pictures and have always wanted to make specific sets that can come to life. I’m fascinated with how it works,” commented Sabrina.

Flora is researching color vision and how/why we see color. “It has interested me for a while so when I was able to choose something for my research topic, I thought it would be interesting.”

Wes is studying quail (from birth to death) and how they are raised.

Charlotte is interested in the field of Herbal Medicine. She hopes to learn about making remedies and tinctures for various ailments. Currently, she is looking into a “cold & flu” tincture using hysop, ginger root, and echinacea. Charlotte plans to visit Sperryville’s Wild Roots Apothecary for ingredients and information. “I think more people need to know about it [herbal medicine] so we don’t just keep using man-made remedies that can harm your immune system. I think the best option for people is herbal medicine, and I want to be able to help with that.”

Lucas is researching the The Seven Summits of the world. He is interested in learning more about the mountains and who has climbed them throughout history.

Noah is fascinated by dry ice and has chosen to study its scientific qualities and daily uses. He enjoys conducting experiments and making ice cream with it.

Stephen is interested in Luther Burbank and the study of Botany.

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