

# BELLE MEADE



School | Summer Day Camp | Farm | B & B



## Open House

On October 16, Belle Meade School had its annual Fall Open House. Three new family came to visit Belle Meade while many students and families came out. Several students showed the new students around the farm and the school. Additionally, we had the trial of “The People versus The Prime Minister and Parliament of Bellelandia”. The Prime Minister was found innocent, while the ruling on Parliament has yet to be decided.  
J.R. Hensley



## Masquerade Party

It’s November! With Fall Break almost a week away, many of us here at Belle Meade have already started to relax in preparation for the upcoming holidays and extra hours of sleep. However, though October has passed, one shouldn’t get too comfortable. The Halloween Masquerade could be right around the corner, waiting for it’s chance to attack and party!

It’s been two weeks since the Masquerade party, where monstrous partygoers gathered from all over at Belle Meade school. The food was terrifyingly delicious, and the upbeat music was like a chorus of ghoulish singers, but most frightening of all was the HAUNTED LAB! Yes, while the Masquerade carried on downstairs, a fiendish scientist set up his bloody equipment and experiments before leading unsuspecting visitors on tours through his horror-filled laboratory.

Even now that the party has passed, some (and by some, I mean me) say that they can still hear the chilling voices from those who nearly lost themselves to the Haunted Lab. One could insist that this is because those who entered the lab go to the school and are very much alive and well, but I digress. There’s no knowing for sure when this Halloween Masquerade could appear again, but after careful research into paranormal phenomenon, I suspect that it could very well show up again in only slightly under a year.

This November, keep an eye out for leftover monsters and escaped scientists. Some of them can’t stand waiting until next Halloween to party again!

Julia



### Thornton Hill Fort Valley Hounds Fox Hunt

On Friday, November 11: Alyssa, Sofie, and Alex joined Rosie Campbell (Alex's mother) and the members of the Thornton Hill Fort Valley Hounds (THFVH) for a Junior Fox Hunt in Sperryville. It was Sofie and Alyssa's first time participating in this formal event. For those of you that are not familiar, this is a coat and tie event. The THFVH members were impressed with the Belle Meade riders and their ponies from their recent wins in the Bull Run Hunt Hunters pace and jump show and were especially happy to have our team participate in the hunt. We thank everyone who helped make this experience possible. "It was a beautiful day for a ride!"  
Alex



### Congratulations to Alex for winning the Virginia Cyclocross State Championship!



## UVA Field Trip

Last week, we had our UVA field trip. Our first stop was the Fralin Museum of Art. We received a very informative tour of the Writer's Eye pieces and were encouraged to ask questions that were thoroughly answered. When the tour was over we all had a chance to explore the museum and start writing down ideas for our Writer's Eye project. Next we went to UVA's cafeteria for lunch. The lunch was buffet style and was the highlight for many. Lastly, we had a tour of the Rotunda and our tour guide, Malcolm, did a wonderful job. He was very informative and kept everyone entertained. He told us about the interesting history of the Rotunda as well as information about UVA's various events.

Avi

## High School: Writer's Eye

### *Arcane Egyptian Astronomy*

With spirals that shimmer and shine in the night  
 It's beauty is accounted for certainly, what a sight  
 Intricate with the glorious golden swirls  
 When you look, it feels like you're the only one in the world  
 The blue galaxy twists into a figure eight  
 At night you could sit and stare with your date  
 Specs come and fly through the air  
 Some even have gotten in my hair!  
 Come now my dear for the time is right  
 To gaze upon the stars at the strike of midnight  
 But pay attention for it's not just blue  
 For the swirls and lines form a letter B too!  
 It lights up the sky like fireworks in July  
 I think the mood for it would possibly be shy  
 So now I bid the galaxy adieu  
 And thanks for letting me share it with you

-Lauren



### *Prime Partition Three*

Earth was always a fickle place, never being too sure of what kinds of creatures it wanted to crawl over its surface. One millennium it'd kill off nearly everything in its water after introducing a flood of oxygen into its atmosphere, only to kill off almost everything else that adapted by removing a smidgen of the element in the next. It was never cold enough, never hot enough, never happy with how big those hairy things had gotten, and certainly never too pleased when the other planets teased it for its capriciousness.

-Julia



### *The Convalescent*

“It’s over now,” I whispered in his ear. “The pain is over now.” I knew he couldn’t hear me, but it didn’t feel right to say nothing at all. I held the arm of the limping man and led him down the hall, his bandaged leg dragging across the floor. He didn’t seem to notice the children, but I did. They looked so out of place with their colorful clothing. Some were playing, some were crying, and others were silently taking it all in. A girl in a pretty yellow dress rode by on a scooter followed by a boy in a blue shirt. In a corner a man in a bright white outfit was trying to find the words to explain to a green eyed girl the death of her father. Despite all these wonderful colors the air was full of something dark. It carried the smell of blood and bandages, the sound of crying and screaming. It was filled with pleading, pleas that loved ones would return to their families alive. It was full of despair. My presence wasn’t helping. I looked back at the man next to me, and he leaned on his crutches. I wondered what he was thinking. Was he ready to go? Was he thinking about his family? Did he have any family left? I wondered how his family would react, given he had any. I looked at his expressionless face. He was young, no older than twenty-five. There had been plenty like him, men who were young and could’ve had more life to live. But I came. I came to take them away without question. This was no different. I came to take this man away like the others and that’s what I planned to do. - Avi

I am young  
 I am here. Children running and playing,  
 Only if they had a clue to what was going on  
 Would they understand?  
 The people in the cities, would they understand,  
 Would they wake up and help win this battle?  
 Reality is merely a dream, not what we want to be  
 We cannot control it, we want to, it fails every time  
 The steps on the wood floor that she makes, and the steps I take  
 Loud and lonely sound the steps I take, sometimes with her,  
 Sometimes without her.  
 Walking a lonely journey by myself,  
 There are things I have to wonder to myself  
 Who am I with all this pain, I should be in heaven if that defines  
 Who I am.  
 I am now middle aged  
 With a half journey and not complete, I wonder how  
 We got there as a nation and how I got there as a person,  
 The grey hair is coming, you can tell, along with the  
 wrinkles on my face.  
 -James

## The Dragon's Eye

Now you'll hear a story  
Of a far flung quest  
That rang through the ages  
On the wings of time

In a land far away  
There lived a greedy prince  
And he heard tale of a power  
That was greater than the rest

Oh he was warned time and time again  
Not to waste his time on such an errant quest  
For the guardians of this power  
We're not of this world

(Chorus)  
Down in the darkness is where we reside  
Keeping watch on how this world survives  
There is nothing to fear as long as hope endures  
And we always will remain, of the dragon's eye

But still the prince was not swayed  
To abandon hope  
So he gathered all the strongest men  
And set out on the road

For seven days and seven nights  
They did march along  
Until they reached the end  
And this is what they found

So this is what they saw, as they did quake in fear  
'Twas a great big dragon as tall as the sky  
So they did watch and did see  
What was really there

(Chorus)  
Down in the darkness tis where we reside  
Keeping watch on how this world survives  
There is nothing to fear as long as hope endures  
And we always will remain, of the dragon's eye

'Twas a great castle as tall as the clouds  
The craft of it so great  
That it looked all the more, as a dragon would be  
To fill our hearts with fear

He went up to the gates so brave  
So they they might show their prince  
That they would have what they came for  
Before the night was through

The gate did open, opened with a moan  
And then out they came  
Out the ones, who will always will endure  
With a cry so great the prince shook to his bones

(Chorus)  
Down in the darkness is where we reside  
Keeping watch on how this world survives  
There is nothing to fear as long as hope endures  
And we always will remain, of the dragon's eye

And all night to hear, was the sound of iron  
With a battle so great as to shake the world  
And through the anvil of the battle field  
This legend it was born

Of the ones who will endure  
The ones who are the night  
The ones who always guard that thing  
That dragon's eye

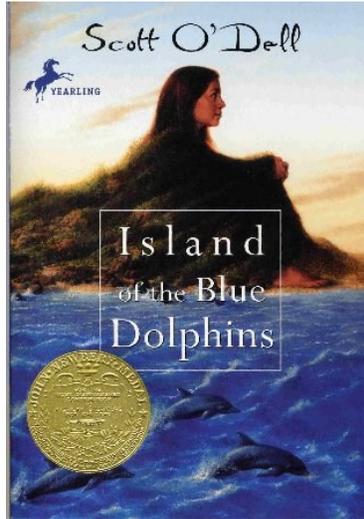
So will you listen out  
Oh, will you hear  
The tale of the prince who did not heed the word  
So ye will never search that place of the dragon's eye

(Chorus)  
Down in the darkness is where we reside  
Keeping watch on how this world survives  
There is nothing to fear as long as hope endures  
And we always will remain, of the dragon's eye  
And there is nothing to fear as long as ye take warn  
And as always will endure, of the dragon's eye  
-Oliver

## Universe in the Dragon's Eye

As they take their first breath  
He gives his last  
-Madison

## Middle School: *Island of the Blue Dolphins*



“*Island of the Blue Dolphins* has won the Newbery Medal and the Hans Christian Andersen Medal. I like the book because it tells you about parts of history that many people don’t know. I would recommend this book to people that like drama and historical fiction.” - Sofie

“Overall, this was one of the most interesting books I have read. It made me think about what I would do in Karana’s case. It also made me wonder who was the protagonist and who was the antagonist. I don’t usually get into books, but this one kept me interested. I would definitely recommend it to a friend because of the overall story and how thought out it is.” - Ezra

“Scott O’Dell was definitely trying to send a message with this novel. The way I interpreted it: the message is that it is possible to live without the technology currently considered ‘normal’ and that it is possible to live on an abandoned island for as long as 18 years. I would recommend this book to all people. It has an entertaining story and a message that many people need to hear. I found the story interesting because I like Karana’s ideas. For every problem, she has a solution, until the white men come and take her away. This book shows an understanding of friendship and it’s importance.” - Alyssa

“There is a lot about this book that I like. I really enjoyed it and I hope everyone else will enjoy it too. I recommend this book to my sister. I liked the part where Karana and Rontu hunt the devil-fish. I didn’t like the part where Karana didn’t look after Ramo.” - Ryan

“I think this is a decent book. I like that a lot of the characters are animals. Read it if you want. There was a bunch (exactly) of emotional stuff. For example, all the main characters died. I liked the general everything because I just liked the book. I did not like when Rontu died because it is sad.” - Thomas



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