



Giving Bain Elementary a PAWS-UP On the News!



11524 Bain School Road Mint Hill, NC 28227

Bain Builds New Outdoor Learning Center

The Outdoor Learning Center
By: Addy Lerch

The Outdoor Learning Center, or OLC, is a great way for kids to be able to learn in a different environment. The OLC will have a shelter with a roof over it, a white board and some tables and chairs so you can teach basically any subject in the OLC.

The OLC is mostly a really big garden with a butterfly garden which is all non-toxic. Then if we wanted to use some veggies or the cafeteria ladies want to use it in the salads, it won't be bad to eat thanks to Ms. Sally, the President of the Bain PTA.

Another good thing is that most of the plants can survive on their own, which I think is really cool!



The PTA ladies have been using all the money we raised from last year and some of the funds from this year to build the Outdoor Learning Center.

For the shelter part of the OLC, Ms. Sally is going to make the roof a type of metal and have little metal bucket-type rain gauges at each corner. Once they are full we can use the water for the plants. The other really cool thing is that the whole thing will be fenced in so no animals will eat or ruin the plants.

Sadly the OLC won't be complete until almost the end of the year. But luckily the fifth graders should still get to use it.

Also, the teachers will have to rent out the OLC if they want to use it. I am so excited for the OLC, and I hope you are too.

A Fun Way to Learn

By Bryce Gould

The new and exciting outdoor learning center is under construction and has great plans. The learning center is a miniature school, but even more interesting and fun. It will be packed with amazing things and learning materials. It will be modern and new, and it will give students a chance to learn about plants and animals. Giving students a new atmosphere will provide a diverse learning experience so that learning isn't all about just looking at paper. Thanks to last year's Fun Run, Bain raised \$40,000 to build the learning center, according to Gina Duhigg,

Former PTA President for the 2015-16 school year. In just about one month the center will be completed. There will be many things included in the learning center and students, staff, and parents are all excited! "It is so nice to see our school coming together, raising money, and building something that will benefit our students for years to come", says parent and Bain volunteer Carla Gould Hall. Paws up everyone, here it comes!

"It could help improve schoolwork
and help students get higher grades."

-Morgan Ferguson

The Wheels on the Bus Go Round and Round



By Brooklyn Grubbs

Research and statistics show that taking a bus to school is the safest way to go, but accidents sometimes happen. Children may face other hazards on the bus besides the risk of being hurt in a crash.

When it comes to getting kids safely to and from school, there is room for improvement. Have

you ever thought about seat belts on our school buses? Seems like a safe addition doesn't it! However, for smaller students, lap belts can be more harmful than helpful. Lap belts can tighten at the waist, causing internal injury. The shoulder part of a seat belt adds the most protection to the total body. Adding lap/shoulder belts are very expensive and evidence suggests that all but the youngest students are reluctant to wear them...meaning older kids may not think they are cool.

I've asked a few fellow Bain students, what their opinions are about this. Here is what they said!

Will said, "Yes, school buses should have seat belts because it's not safe without them, and they will stop you so you don't fly out the window if the bus crashes." Billy said, "Yes, because we're kids and cars have seat belts. So to me a car is safer. Why don't buses have seat belts? THEY SHOULD."

Other students think that buses should not

have seat belts. Blakely said, "No, because it would be hard to get to the bus driver and it would be hard to get off the bus during an emergency." Samara said, "No, because there are a lot of kids on the bus and if the buckle gets jammed and something happens, you may not be able to get to the exit." Lydia, the last student I asked said, "No, because if the bus caught on fire and a seat belt jams, the student may not be able to get to the exit. Or in a non-emergency, if a student's seat belt jams at their stop, they may miss their stop."

Maybe one day school buses will have seat belts, but for now, research says if we stay seated while the bus is moving, we should get to school safely without the help of seat belts and all of the potential problems that may come with them.

If seat belts ever are needed, money shouldn't be the reason we don't have them. Students are more important than the money it would take to pay for seat belts on buses. We are important, so LISTEN TO THE BUS DRIVER AND FOLLOW BUS RULES.

Video Game Reviews: Toca Lab & Pikmin

'Toca Lab' by Andrew Grella

Welcome future scientists! If you are interested in science, this might be the app for you. Toca Lab is a mobile app for all ages. It introduces the periodic table in a fun and exciting way. Maybe now you can play video games instead of going to school! The characters are cute; they are little elements that speak in their own language. Each element has its own personality and characteristics such as being very heavy, light, magnetic, or sticky. The game allows you to do experiments on the elements like spinning them, zapping them, boiling them and pouring liquids on them to transform them into something new. When you put the elements in chemicals they explode! I really liked the creativity of this game. They include all 118 elements of the periodic table. The only bad things about the game was that I wish they added more ways to change the elements like shaking them. I loved the game and I hope you do too! On a scale from 1-5, I rate this game:

Fun: ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ (4)

Animation: ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ (4)

Violence/blood/gore/crude humor: none (0)

'Pikmin' By Hudson Mesiti

ALRIGHT! Let's talk about vegetables! Just kidding. Well, that's actually not too far off. If you read the title of this article that's kind of what Pikmin are. Pikmin are a species of half-plant, half-human hybrid. Let's start at the beginning.

While on a relaxing vacation of drifting through the cosmos, Captain Olimar's ship (the S.S. Dolphin) hit a meteor directly on the nose of the dolphin. He crashed landed on a mysterious planet (later to be named, PNF 404) and stumbled upon a mysterious and weirdly shaped red onion. It turned out to be the home of a red Pikmin. Later he found yellow and blue onions, home to the yellow and blue Pikmin. To thank Olimar for uncovering their onions, the Pikmin work together to help recover the Captain's ship parts he lost in the crash.

The Pikmin had many skills. The red Pikmin are strongest and are fire-resistant. The yellow Pikmin can carry bomb rocks, they are thrown highest, and are the best diggers (and in later games are shock proof). The blue Pikmin can dive and breathe underwater. There are other Pikmin in later games (purple, white, rock and flying Pikmin), but I'm not going to bore you with that.

CLOSING THOUGHTS. I love every second of every game in the Pikmin series. It is so calming, and I love exploring every inch of every area in the

games. If I had to rank the three Pikmin games, it would go: 3rd, then 1st, then 2nd. I would recommend a high dose of playing Pikman to EVERYONE.



Asking Miss Advice

A Listening Ear in this Big World By Miss Advice

Hi! My name is.... Well, I don't think I should expose my name. So, hmmm.....maybe you should call me Miss Advice. I bet you're wondering why I'm here. Well, I'm here to give advice and I'm very qualified for the job.

I remember one time I gave advice. My brother was stressed out about school and I told him to try his best. I also gave some advice to a friend who shall not be named. The advice was to not give up on their friendship with another student. I found out that the two students are now best friends. Another time I gave someone some advice was to be yourself. People will like you better. A few months after, I met this person's group of friends. They seemed like a very nice group of friends.

I know I've only told you about times I've given advice to people, but I remember one time someone gave me some advice. It was very good advice. The advice was to use my voice more. What that means is that you should stand up for yourself. So, if you are not using your voice, it means that you aren't sticking up for yourself. I am working on taking that advice.

As I close this article, I want to tell you a few things. First of all, your lesson from this should be that you should always ask someone for advice when you need it.

You could even ask me for advice by placing an anonymous message in the mailbox (marked MAIL) outside of room 212 (Mrs. Blackmon's room). I will read all of your messages and choose some to give advice to in our next Paws-Up issue. Don't be afraid to ask me anything. I just want to be a listening ear in this big world!

Books, Books, and More Books!

A Book Review: *Crenshaw* by Katherine Applegate article by August Aldrich

This last week I read the book *Crenshaw* by Katherine Applegate written in 2015. *Crenshaw* is a imaginary cat that is destroying Jackson's life. Jackson, a ten year old boy, is getting very frustrated with this black and white cat. He wants to become an animal scientist and is always sticking to his facts to get rid of *Crenshaw*. Jackson's parents are struggling with the bills so they are probably going to have to live in their car for the next two or three years.

This book has a lot of humor throughout it. When I read this there were a ton of twists, turns and surprising moments that confused me and made me wonder things like "why did the author include this?" and "would this be important?" etc. If you like fiction that is easy for you to understand, *Crenshaw* should be your main book. *Crenshaw* has short easy to read chapters, and it explains what it means later on.

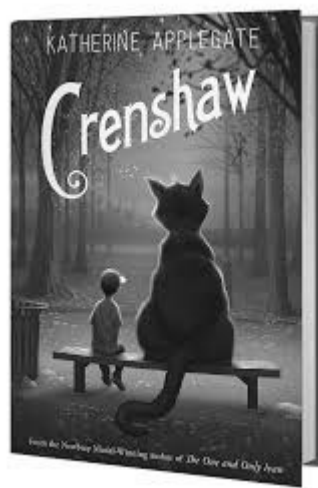
Book Level: Q

A Book Review: *El Deafo* by Cece Bell article by Miah Williams

El Deafo is a graphic novel about a girl named CeCe (the author) who became partly deaf when she was little. This book shows how she adjusts to and eventually

accepts her new way of life. Friendship, humor, and amazing illustrations come together to make this book a perfect read.

Book Level : Q



A Book Review: *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C.S.Lewis article by Tyler Johnston

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe is 1 out of 7 books in the *Chronicles of Narnia* series. I chose this one (even though it is the 2nd book) because it introduces the characters throughout most of the series like Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy. First, I'll start with Lucy. She finds a wardrobe and she just can't resist the feel of coats, so she goes in but remembers to keep the door open. Suddenly, she feels not coats but branches. Then she hears crunching like snow. Eventually she sees a light post. Next to that light post is a fawn

(Mr. Tumnus) who invites Lucy to his house. There he tells her that he is helping the evil White Witch and begins to cry. He immediately helps Lucy get back.

When she returns, no one believes her. Her brother Edmund goes into the wardrobe to tease her, but after foolishly shutting the wardrobe behind him, he finds out the truth.

Eventually Lucy, Edmund, Peter, and Susan end up in Narnia where their adventure really begins. To find out more pick up a copy of the book today!

Snacks and Games and Crafts, Oh My!

By Maddi Whitenight

We all know school is hard work. Monday through Friday, 8:15-3:15. But sometimes we get an extra special treat. In the spring, the winter, and the fall we have class parties!!!

Our class parties have parent volunteers that come in and decorate, put out snacks, get games ready, and plan a



craft!! For decorations they usually have tablecloths, center pieces, plates and napkins. For snacks we have candy, cookies, cupcakes, chips, fruits, and juice boxes. For the really fun games we have Bingo or Toss Across!! Also, for the craft we have painting, coloring, and stickers.

We are so lucky to have room parents and parent volunteers to plan such great parties for us! We appreciate everything they do for us.

Guess the Teachers Feature

Each issue we will feature Bain teachers. We'll give you the clues, you guess the teacher! Place your guess in the Guess the Teacher box in the Media Center. The answers will be revealed in the next issue of Paws Up.

by **Meredith Buckanavage**

Birthplace: Kilmarnock, Scotland
 Birthdate: March 20
 Favorite food: Pasta - any kind
 Favorite color: blue
 Favorite restaurant: Amalfi's
 Favorite animal: birds (hawks)
 Three interesting facts about me:
 1. I can whistle really loudly with my fingers.
 2. I love to dance, but am not very good at it.
 3. I wanted to be a Petroleum Engineer in high school, but thankfully changed my mind.
 Grade I teach: 5th
 Letters in my last name: 8 letters
 How many kids I have: 2 girls
 My first name starts with an "L."
 My initials have never changed in my whole entire life. They are the same as the least common multiple - LCM.

By **Neyla Sahbaz**

Can you guess who this is?

This teacher has three children. This teacher loves jelly beans. This teacher enjoys walking very much and is 60 years old. This teacher was born on March 10. Who is this featured teacher? Can you guess with all these clues? It might be hard, but you will figure it out! Ask other teachers for help!

By **Emily Dyer**

Have you ever tripped on a stage while receiving an award? Well the teacher in this feature definitely did. Her most embarrassing moment was when she was in third grade and she tripped on the stairs to receive her award. She was in front of the WHOLE school. Instead of crying she laughed. This is one reason why she is special. She always has a smile.

The teacher's hair color is blonde. Her favorite book is *The Giving Tree*. If you have not read the

book, you should. It's great!

She loves to bake in her spare time and travel up north where she is from. Her favorite foods are strawberries and cookies. Cookies may not be healthy, but they are yummy, right? You may find this teacher walking on the lower halls of the school.



Have you guessed who she is yet?

Don't worry, you will find out who they are next time in our...Guess the Teachers Feature!!

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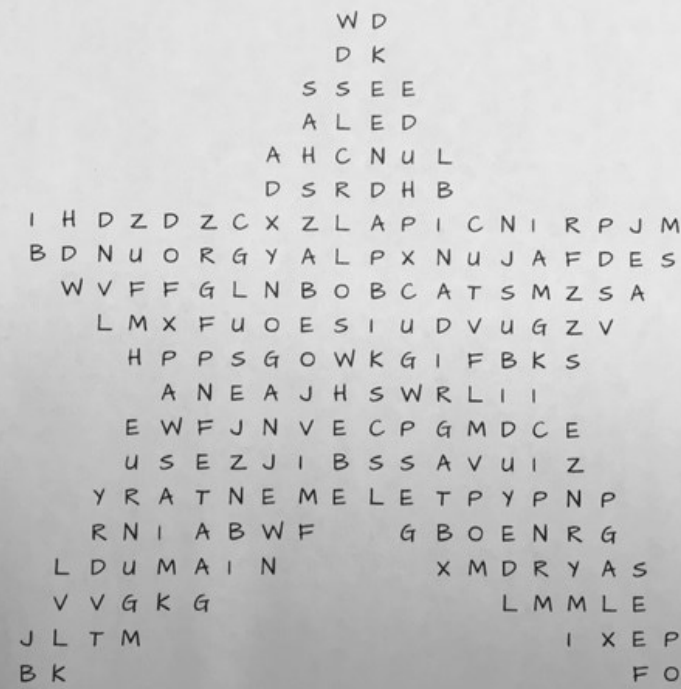
By **Jack Wehr**

The Carolina Panthers are our home football team. The Panthers are in the National Football League (NFL). The team was founded in 1995 by Jerry Richardson. He and his family own 48% of the franchise. They wanted fans from both Carolinas, so they created the motto "Two states. One team." The Panthers logo also shows

the shapes of the two states. The head of the logo is South Carolina and the body is North Carolina. Another cool fact is that the field at Bank of America Stadium is made of the dirt from every county in both North and South Carolina. Ron Rivera is the head coach of the Panthers. Some key players are Luke Kuechly, Thomas Davis, Greg Olson, Jonathan Stewart and Cam Newton. The next game is against the Seattle Seahawks on Sunday, December 4th at 8:30 pm at Century Link Field in Seattle, Washington. The record this year is three wins, and six losses. Panthers Keep Pounding and get another win!

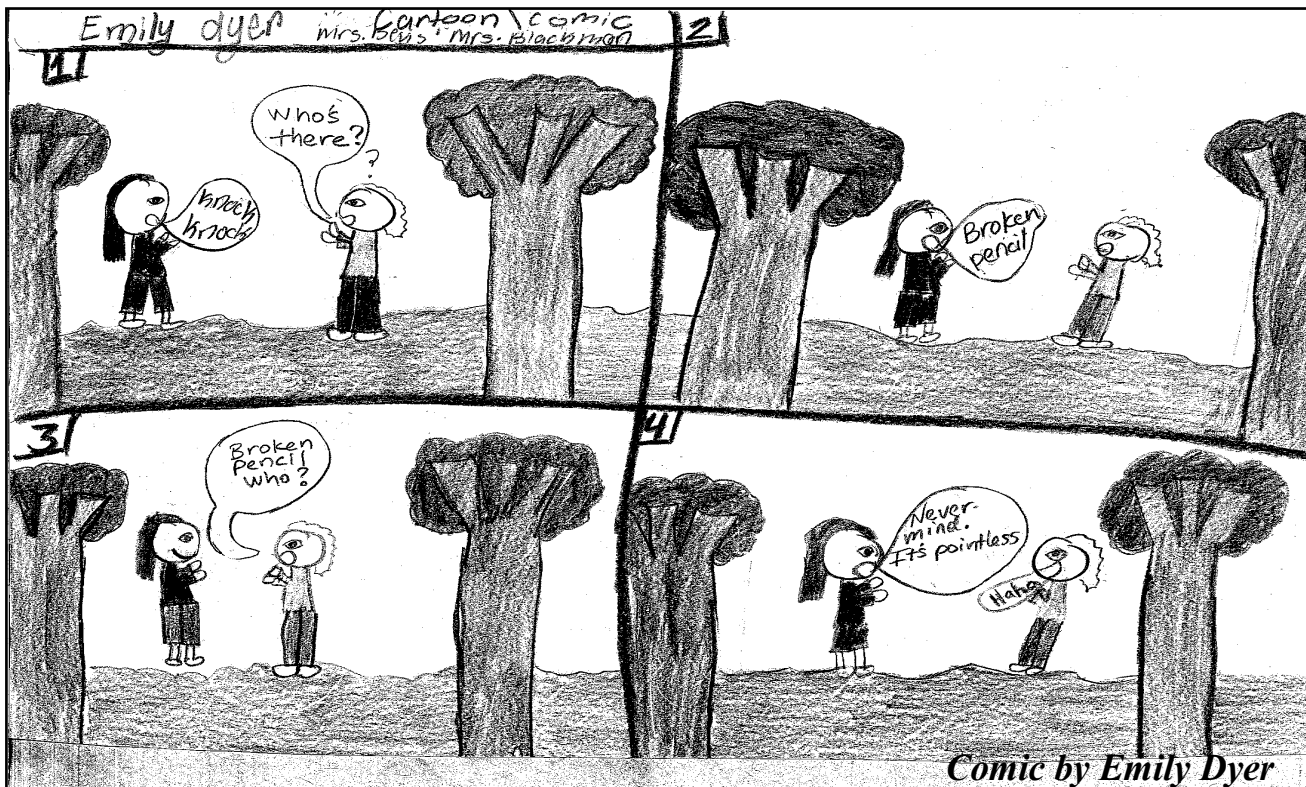
Paws-Up Word Search

By Jackson Kozelmann



Word Bank

- BUS
- PAWS
- LUNCH
- UP
- PLAY-GROUND
- BAIN
- ELA
- ELEMEN-TARY
- MAIN
- SCHOOL
- BUILDING
- BOBCATS
- NEWSPAPER
- PEN
- PRINCIPAL



CLUB CORNER

Recorder Club

By Tyler Johnston

The recorder club is led by Mrs. Hofmann. Every Friday, fifth graders meet before school and practice their talent in recorders until classes begin. Sometimes they allow younger siblings to come and watch the 5th graders do their work on recorders until the bell rings. The club gives members more experience with recorders and more complex songs unlike fourth grade recorders. Riley Johnston, a fifth grader, in the club says, "My favorite parts of recorder club are learning new songs, and when we all play a song better than we did the time before." Now you know all about recorder club. Think about joining the club when you become a fifth grader!

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