

Bucks Bulletin is a project of the students and staff of Washington Island School.

The Student Council Report, February 2025

By Marleen EhrlichJohnson, Advisor with Pam Josifek

On the last day of the Lion's Club Fish Derby, Sunday, February 16th, the Student Council offered home-made desserts for only a dollar to follow the Lion's Club chili and bratwurst luncheon! Some people bought their desserts first so their favorite wouldn't sell out by the time they were finished eating, and others bought desserts to take home for a whole week! No one could argue that there was a large variety of desserts offered and that it was difficult for some to choose!

As requested by a few Middle School students after the Fall Fling, the Student Council hosted a Valentine's Social in the School Commons on the night of February 15th. Every Middle School student came, plus a few homeschooled students, and many at the event were dressed up in

fancy attire! Pizza, Chex Mix, frosted sugar heart cookies, and punch were served while the Middle School students mingled and danced! A Middle School Spring Fling may be in the not-so-far future!

The Student Council has set aside April 13th for a Sunday night community dinner fundraiser and has been planning the Alice in Wonderland High Tea (dinner) for a few weeks already! Mark your calendars, and keep watch for details to come out soon!

In the early evening of Tuesday, May 13th, the Student Council will hold its 2nd Annual End-of-the-Year Carnival for children and their families to enjoy carnival games, dinner, and new this year- BINGO, together! More event details will be sent out as the date gets closer.



PHOTO BY MARLEEN EHRLICHJOHNSON

Lemon Bundt Cake, Carrot Cake, Chocolate Cupcakes, Fudge Brownies, Cherry and Key Lime Pie, Oreo Torte, Frosted Sugar Cookies, and Lemon Bars: One would definitely say the Student Council offered a variety of choices to satisfy a sweet tooth after a Lion's Club chili or bratwurst lunch at Nelsen's Hall on the last day of the Fish Derby.



PHOTO BY MARLEEN EHRLICHJOHNSON

We are nine strong! Introducing the Washington Island School Student Council.



PHOTO BY MARLEEN EHRLICHJOHNSON

As requested by Middle School students after the Fall Fling, the Student Council hosted a Valentine's Social, and every student from the Middle School came, plus a few homeschooled students! The king and queen's names were drawn out of a hat, and after they were crowned, they shared a casual dance together. Maybe a Middle School Spring Fling is in the not-so-far future!

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Collaborative Tessellation Art Installation on School Pediment

By Melanie Jones

A new art piece now graces the pediment of our school building. The installation features 45 separate birds, interconnected in a triangular shape. This project resulted from a collaborative effort that engaged students from kindergarten through 12th grade.

The central element of the installation is a bird crafted by student Madelyn Kellerman. Madelyn's bird is enlarged and replicated 45 times to form a tessellation that symbolizes a flock of birds. The bird was chosen for its representation of freedom and flight, reflecting both the personal growth of students and the unity of the school.

Mrs. Jones oversaw the project as a whole in art class, guiding students across all grade levels by providing a creative direction for the larger installation, helping to ensure that the individual contributions would come together to form a cohesive and meaningful artwork.

A key part of bringing Madelyn's bird tessellation to life was the involvement of the school's tech department. Mr. Sullivan worked to translate Madelyn's design into a physical form. Using Adobe Illustrator, Mr. Sullivan recreated the bird tessellation digitally. He then programmed the design into the CNC machine, which precisely carved each bird out of wood for the installation.

The process of creating the piece was a multi-step, multi-age effort. Elementary students painted the birds using a cool or warm color scheme. Students learned about the elements

of art and the principles of design as they purposefully incorporated lines, shapes, and patterns into their work. Middle and high school students contributed by adding decorative outlines to the birds, using complementary colors to those chosen by the elementary students. These outlines helped define the birds' shapes and frame the elementary students' abstract works.

The final result is a triangular arrangement of birds that soar across the pediment, bringing life and color to the front of the school.

This installation serves as a reminder that while each of us is an individual, we are all part of something much larger—our school, our community, and our world. As the birds stretch across the building, they remind us that together, we can create something beautiful, meaningful, and impactful.



PHOTO BY MELANIE JONES

Dorene and her classmates are hard at work painting their bird masterpieces.



PHOTO BY MELANIE JONES

Mrs. Jones encourages detail and craftsmanship during day two of bird painting.



PHOTO BY MELANIE JONES

Mr. Sullivan is on Tom Jordan's man lift, prepping to hang the birds. Thank you, Tom!

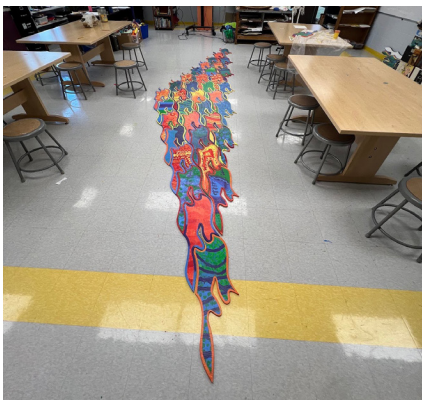


PHOTO BY MELANIE JONES

Almost ready to hang!



PHOTO BY MELANIE JONES

Elementary students leap with excitement upon seeing their artwork displayed on the front gable of the school.

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Seventh and Eighth Grade Learn About Mexico

By Mary Grzelak and the Seventh and Eighth Grade Students

Recently, a community member was invited to speak with the 7th and 8th Grade social studies class. We were thrilled to welcome Mrs. Judy Jones to our classroom to inform us about her time living in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. Students had learned much about the geography, culture, and economy of Mexico, but a first-hand account of what life was like in Mexico added much to the study of Central America.

Mrs. Jones resided part-time in San Miguel with her husband, an artist. They observed and experienced much about the culture of central Mexico. They became acquainted with many locals living in a neigh-

borhood just outside of the center of town. Religious processions and pilgrimages took place right past their house, underlining the importance of faith in this culture.

Many photos were shared with the class which afforded a view into life in Mexico. Mrs. Jones shared copper and ceramic artwork that exemplified the many skills practiced in the region. Throughout two class periods, our knowledge of Mexico was enriched by Mrs. Jones's anecdotes and experiences in San Miguel. If you haven't spoken to her about her Mexican time, be sure to ask her. Thank you, Mrs. Jones, for sharing your experiences with us.



PHOTOS BY MARY GRZELAK
Mrs. Jones shared information about life in Mexico with the 7th and 8th Grade.

Fun and Learning!



PHOTO BY SARA SORENSEN
Team Beta Fish works hard to fix last-minute issues with their ROV the day before their first meet.

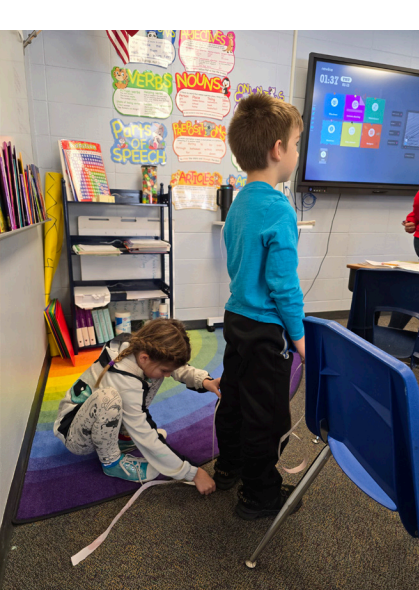


PHOTO BY SARA SORENSEN
1st and 2nd graders play UNO dressed in their best fancy formal wear on Valentine's Day!

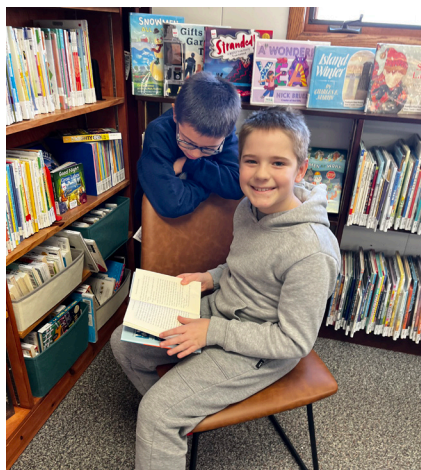
PHOTO BY SARA SORENSEN
Team Beta Fish works hard to fix last-minute issues with their ROV the day before their first meet.

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Look What's Happening in Ms. J's Classroom



This girl got lost in her new book at the Public library, while the other 3rd and 4th-grade students searched the shelves to see what was new and to talk about books they'd already read.



These two students are enjoying their trip across the parking lot from the school to the Washington Island Public Library! Since then, they have all gotten library cards and will return to check out more books every other week!

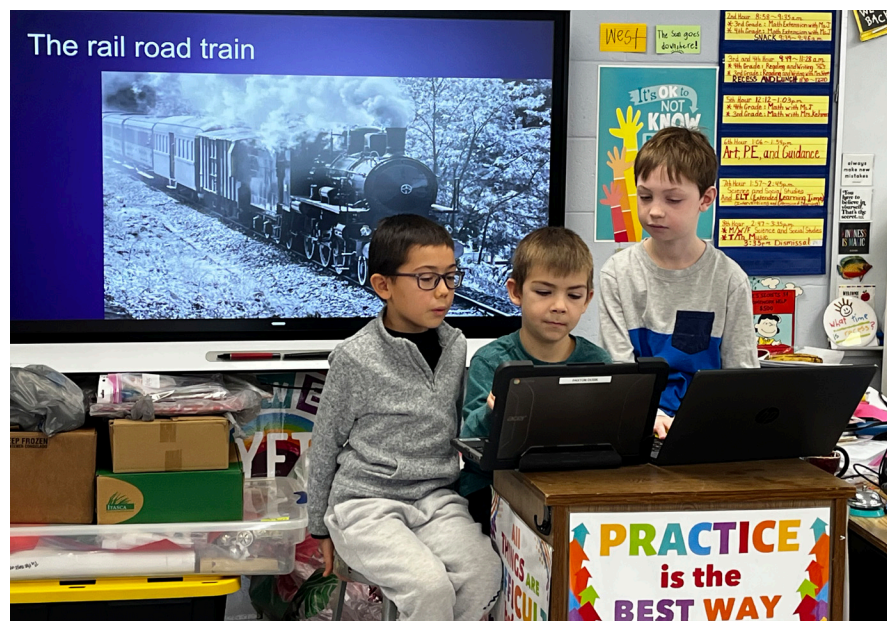


PHOTOS BY MARLEEN EHRLICHJOHNSON

These two girls researched the immigration of Mai Ya's family from Laos and a refugee camp in Thailand to Madison, Wisconsin. They shared their research with their classmates using a Google Presentation Slideshow.



This student went home and right away recruited his brother and sisters to help him build his Gingerbread Beach House! Thank you, Target!



These three students teamed up to study and present to their classmates the immigration of the Greene Family from Missouri to Pleasant Ridge, Wisconsin during the Civil War.



In January, Target surprised the Elementary students with a donation of a gingerbread house for each of them! Although not all students got a usual-looking Gingerbread House, all students looked happy to carry home their new treasure! Some got a Gingerbread Beach House, some a Gingerbread Holiday Truck, and others even a Sugar Cookie Target Store!



Plastic letters are not just for kids! These 4th-grade students are using plastic letters to learn how to spell 100 Words Every 4th Grade Student Should Know by talking together about phonics rules, the meanings of the words, and how they are used in sentences.