

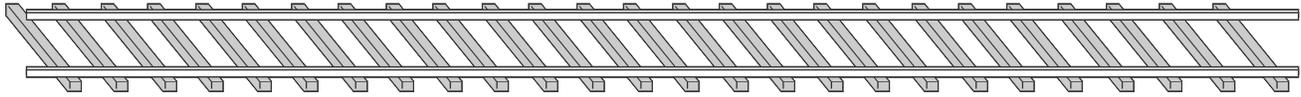
ZEPHYR TRACKS



DECEMBER/JANUARY 2019-20

VISIT US ONLINE AT

WWW.BENTON.K12.WI.US



Benton High School was well represented in the Fall Sports and it showed on the All-Conference lists! Congratulations to the student-athletes listed below on their awards!

Volleyball

- Alexis Redfearn - First Team
- Sarah Fluhr - Honorable Mention

Football

- Caleb O'Neill - First Team Tight End
- Will Lawrence - First Team Running Back and First Team Outside Linebacker
- Brad Goffinet - Second Team Guard
- Zander Jones - First Team Inside Linebacker and Second Team Guard
- Holden Murphy - First Team Kicker and Second Team Punter

Cross Country

- Kayci Martensen - First Team

Additional congratulations to Will Lawrence who was named to the All-Region team for the Wisconsin Football Coaches Association and was selected for Honorable Mention on the All-State Football Team. Kayci Martensen was also selected to the All-State Cross Country team after her terrific performance in the State Cross Country Meet. Kayci was the State Champion by 31 seconds in Division 2.

Leading up to the final weeks of all of our Fall sports we had some amazing pep assemblies that are led by the "Queen of Pep" Mrs. Neis. If you have never seen a Mrs. Neis Pep Rally, I highly recommend you make the effort to come watch the next one, whenever that may be!

Thank you to these student-athletes as well as all of our other participants who represent our school so well!

Mark Your Calendar . . .

- Dec. 9 PK-8 Holiday Concert-6:30 pm
- Dec 11 School Board Meeting-6:00 pm
- Dec.19 Rock the Gym
- Dec. 23-Jan 1 Christmas Break
- Dec. 27 Alexander Tourney—6:00 p.m.
- Dec. 28 Alexander Tourney-6:00 p.m.
- Jan. 23 End of 1st Semester
- Jan. 24 No School-Teacher In-service
- Jan. 31 K-6 Grand Harbor 9:30-3:00 p.m.
- Jan. 31 Suicide Awareness Night
- Feb. 18 Girls' Basketball Parent's Night
- Feb. 19 Early Dismissal—12:45 p.m.
- Feb. 20 No School-PT Conf 8:00-Noon
- Feb. 21 Girls' Basketball Senior Night
- Feb. 21 No School
- Feb. 24 Boys' Basketball Parent's Night
- Feb. 27 Boys' Basketball Senior Night

FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR'S DESK . . .



As we approach the Holiday break we have a lot to be thankful for in the Benton School District. We have a great group of students that we have the privilege to work with every day. The talents of our students continue to amaze me. We have teachers that are working hard to make sure we meet the needs of every child. We have a support staff that is an integral part of the operation of our school and they go above and beyond on a daily basis. We have people in charge of extra-curricular and co-curricular activities so that our students have the opportunities to play, perform, and explore. We also have a community that supports us in an unwavering way. I personally thank you all for allowing me to be part of the Benton School District.

On December 5, we conducted an all-school security drill. In this drill we announced to the entire school that a suspicious package was located somewhere in the school. Based on the location, the school had to evacuate in a safe and orderly fashion. We managed to have the school cleared in one minute and twenty-five seconds. After the drill was over, grades six through twelve talked about things they could do if we ever have an intruder. Before the drill grades 4k to five did age appropriate training on what to do if we ever had an intruder. We are always working to become a more secure facility for the safety of every person in the building.

The first ever BSMS football season came to an end with a tough loss in the first round of the WIAA playoffs, but overall the inaugural season was a huge success. We finished with a record of seven wins and two losses. One of the losses was to an eventual state champion. It was great to get the opportunity to be in several big games. The boys got to play in front of big crowds and they played well. We are looking forward to building a tradition and building relationships each year. Thanks to all of the people that supported the Knights this year.

I hope all of you have a happy and safe holiday season. We are looking forward to 2020.

Go Zephyrs!!
Todd Bastian

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL . . .



Zephyr Families,

With the holidays approaching and cold temperatures on the way, the last few weeks have been a time of reflecting and savoring the exceptional community support our students receive. We are very fortunate to have a new projector screen in the elementary gym and a new Clear Touch panel due to the Benton Community Fund's generosity. Such gestures make our facilities more accommodating! Community members also continue to give to our students and we are very grateful for this! Elementary students celebrated a fantastic first quarter by attending a movie at the Millennium Theater. A portion of this trip was paid for by our POPS fund, which needs your aluminum can donations. A dumpster in the back of the school is our collection point. We appreciate your time and effort to make such experiences possible for our students.

Students continue to work on academics and character. Emphasis on self-regulation and positive behavior is emphasized in our classrooms and at extracurricular events. I hope you were able to attend the WON80 presentation on Character and "Supportsmanship." Adults, as well as students, need to be aware of behavior and consequences.

If you or a community organization needs assistance from our high school students, please consider using our Zephyr Silver Cord Program. Students volunteer hours in the community to earn silver certificates and silver cords to wear at graduation. Contact me for more information.

Our new website layout is due to launch soon, so stay tuned to www.benton.k12.wi.us and our social media outlets for the most recent updates. As always, thank you for always supporting our students and our community!

Lisa M. Lawrence
PK-12 Principal

4K NEWS—MRS. RUNDE



This year in 4K has been **FABULOUS!**

We work hard on fine motor skills to build those tiny muscles in our hands for writing! These students love painting, coloring, playing with friends and listening to stories. We look forward to celebrating themes such as the Polar Express, Winter Birds, Sea Animals, Weather, Valentine's, Dr. Seuss, and more.



Community Involvement; We can't wait to sing at our Holiday Concert. We welcome Parents, Grandparents or Family to sign up to come read with us or play board games December 16th- December 19th, between 8:30 am and 10:30 am. Email Mrs. Runde at rrunde@benton.k12.wi.us to set up a time to see us.



KINDERGARTEN- MRS. BADER



We have had a very busy first few months of Kindergarten. We have been practicing reading words, answering questions about stories that we read, and learning new sight words. The kindergarteners have also been practicing their math skills by comparing, writing, and identifying numbers and quantities through 50. We have also been demonstrating many positive behaviors. Most students have earned 3 or 4 choices out of the prize box so far by reaching their goal for Dojo points. I am so proud of them!



We had a great visit with the BFD. Thank you, Benton Fire Department, for teaching us about fire safety.



Happy Halloween!



Pumpkin Science is so much fun!



Happy Thanksgiving!

MRS. CASPER'S FIRST GRADE NEWS



First grade has been busy this quarter! We are in full swing with our Book-It reading program and also working on AR. Another key to our successful learning environment is being kind. We really try to use kind words and actions in all that we do.

We love ending our day with a smartboard morning routine of calendar, weather, counting our school days with tens and ones, and our favorite is learning the fascinating fact of the day. Here are a couple of our favorite facts we learned that we think you might find interesting too:

- ◆ Day 4: The only number that is spelled with the same number of letters as its numeric value is 4.
- ◆ Day 12: Only 12 astronauts have walked on the moon.
- ◆ Day 31: A billion seconds equals 31 years.
- ◆ Day 58: There's a town in Wales that has 58 letters.

In reading, we have been working on making predictions, cause and effect, main idea and key details to help us become better readers.

In math, we continue to work on addition strategies and subtraction strategies. First graders are doing a great job of beginning to memorize the basic facts already!

Social Studies and Science flow right into our reading themes. We learned a lot about "Now and Then" and the students can tell you many similarities and differences of schools and homes in the present and the past. Most recently, we are talking about communities, voting and government services. The voting process was very interesting, especially the end result! Ask a first grader which cookie won.

Starting the end of January, a student teacher from University of Wisconsin-Platteville will join our classroom. She will be with us for about 8 weeks. Welcome Miss Bentilla!

SECOND GRADE—MRS. SCHNITZLER



Animal Research Dioramas

Time flies when you are having fun! Here are a few flash backs of our fun times together this quarter. We took a field trip to the Platteville Movie Theater to see, *Frozen II*. Students are helping spread kindness through the holidays by participating in daily kindness challenges! In reading, students are identifying the main topic in stories and the key details. This allows them to summarize the stories they are reading. In writing, students published a "how to writing." In Math, students participate in hands-on math stations, while learning how to add and subtract double-digit numbers with regrouping.



Animal Research Dioramas

In Science, students have been working rigorously on their animal research projects. Students designed habitat dioramas, created a research book, and presented their hard work to the third graders. In Social Studies, we learned about the first Thanksgiving and Veteran's Day. We are looking forward to third quarter ... and SPRING!

THIRD GRADE—MRS. LYNE



The third graders have been having a wonderful year! We kicked off our multiplication and division unit by opening an “Array Bakery”. Students had to work in centers to complete different multiplication or division tasks. At the end, they each got to make two cookies decorated with an array—one for them and one for a teacher! Multiplication and division are a huge concept for this year, so when you see a third grader make sure to ask them to tell you a couple facts!

We also celebrated Halloween this year in a big way. Students dressed up and participated in trick-or-treating

around the high school, games and activities in the afternoon, and we finished the day by watching a movie in the gym.

The third graders are currently working on writing a book called “Can You Guess Our Animals?” where each student has to write clues about an animal to help readers guess what animal they are reading about. We will be working on an animal research project next!



Students celebrated their hard work during the first quarter with a trip to the movies to see Frozen 2. Students enjoyed a morning of popcorn, soda, and laughing with friends before a long weekend to celebrate Thanksgiving. We are looking forward to the next few weeks as we will have our holiday concert, new projects, and holiday celebrations! Last but certainly not least, we welcomed another new student to our classroom in November!

FOURTH GRADE—MS. KORTE



It’s hard to believe that the second quarter is already almost over! The fourth graders have a busy ending to 2019. We will have our upcoming Christmas concert. We will also be making gingerbread houses with the Kindergarten classroom, and continuing the tradition of baking cookies as a class and then delivering them to people around our community.

Previously in the quarter, we had the opportunity to host the morning portion of the Veterans Day program. The students loved greeting and serving the Veterans that morning! We also went on a field trip to the movie theater for everyone in the class making their A.R. goals. Let’s not forget Halloween and trick-or-treating around the school!



In the classroom, we are continuing to work on our reading comprehension skills, improving our math facts, and beginning our next trade book. In social studies, we have begun to learn about the regions of the United States. Up next are the states and capitals!

We are looking forward to seeing what the third quarter has in store for us!

MRS. NEIS AND THE FABULOUS FIFTH GRADE



It's been a great year in fifth grade so far and a busy one as well. Each year seems to go by faster than the year before. There are always so many things to learn and never enough time!

We were happy to welcome two new students this quarter from Whidbey Island in Washington State. Twins, Morgan and Samantha (Samee) Howes are a wonderful addition to an already super class. The brother and sister duo have fit right in and we are glad they have joined our class.

We are realizing the importance of knowing our math facts as we work on longer multiplication and division problems. We are using all types of facts, addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, to divide longer dividends. We divide, multiply to check our quotient, and estimate to see if the answer is reasonable. Understanding and knowing how to estimate and use compatible numbers has also been a useful and beneficial skill to use as we work our math problems. Keep practicing all facts from 0-12. It will make daily math assignments much easier and quicker to complete.

Congratulations to Mr. Auden and the students on a job well done at the Veteran's Day program! Veterans were treated to refreshments prior to the program and the fifth graders made thank you cards to place on the tables. We appreciate the sacrifice the veterans and their families have made to keep our country safe and provide us with the freedoms we enjoy each and every day.

To wrap up the first quarter, students traveled to Millennium Cinema in Platteville to enjoy either the movie, "Frozen II" or "Playing with Fire." They were also treated to popcorn and pop! Students are learning the value of hard work and good behavior. Thank you to all who have dropped off cans. It helps make these events possible and more affordable.

Thanksgiving Coordinate Plane Graphing Activity - What will it be?



SIXTH GRADE AND ELEMENTARY SCIENCE — MR. SAVALA



Our sixth grade science students have continued to focus on life science. We have learned about heredity, how traits are passed from parents to offspring. We have specifically learned about DNA. We even made DNA origami.

Fourth and fifth grade science students both be beginning to focus on life science. Fourth grade students will be learning about plant structures and functions, while 5th grade will be learning about the movement of matter and energy through ecosystems. Both grades will also begin to work on their Christmas catapults! These will be built at home out of common household materials, then brought in to be tested against the catapults built by other students.

Snow and cold are in our future. On days when the weather doesn't allow students to come to school, they can still be learning and making gains at home with AR books and IXL.

GUIDANCE MR. BRANT



It has been a very busy quarter! Seniors have been working hard filling out scholarships and preparing for graduation. Junior and Seniors have been meeting with college reps and learning about different colleges and careers. High school students have also been busy preparing for finals.

Grades 6-8 have been exploring different careers. This quarter these students, with the help of Xello, found what jobs matched their interests. After finding their matches, they did research on their top match to find out what the job entails. Each student put together a PowerPoint presentation of their top job and presented it to their class.

In the elementary classrooms, we have been working on managing strong emotions in our guidance lessons. Using the Second Step curriculum, we have been learning ways to calm ourselves when we are feeling angry or upset. We discuss what to do when we are feeling anxious or nervous. We have also learned about kindness, friendship, and empathy.

BAND & MUSIC-MR. AUDEN



The K-8 music students have been working hard to prepare for the upcoming Christmas Concert. The concert will be on December 9th, 2019 at 6:30 pm and will feature the band, choir, and elementary music students. We hope you will join us to see both the progress of the individual students, and the progress of the music department.

One of the most exciting things this year for 7th and 8th grade students is the opportunity to be role models for the music program and to act as the school's top ensembles for both band and choir. Many of them recently attended the Middle School Honors Choir and Honors Band, joining with students from other school districts. These students have also been doing an excellent job representing the music department at school events such as the Veteran's Day Concert and Homecoming Parade. We are looking forward to their continued enthusiasm and hard work as we prepare for our upcoming music events.

The Elementary music students have been the most enthusiastic about their music classes. The 3rd and 4th grade students have been improving their music reading skills, and the 4th graders have been studying the recorder as they prepare to begin band in the near future. 5th and 6th grade band students are well into their study for the year and are showing an outstanding attitude and continuous improvement.

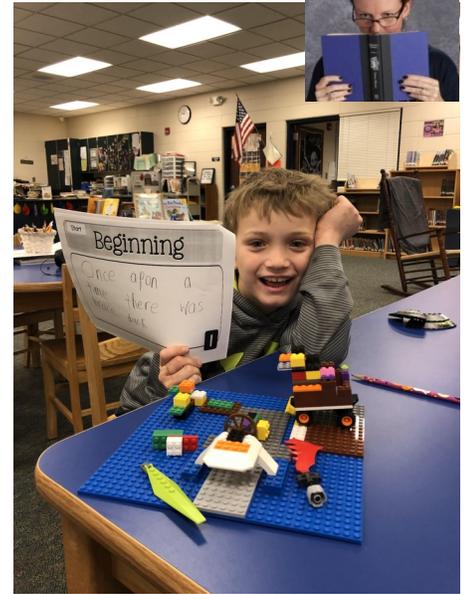
It is a great time to be involved in the music department at Benton! We are working hard to make the Benton music department exceptional, one where students will improve every day as musicians. For now, not only are the students improving as musicians, but the entire music program is improving every day. This makes it an exciting time for all of us to be a part of the Benton community. Thank you for your continued support of the students, and I look forward to seeing you at our Christmas Concert and future events.

FROM THE CLASSROOM OF MRS. KIDWELL



This year is sure flying by and our students are gearing up for Winter Break! We have the UW Adapted Aquatics program beginning this February. A handful of our special education students have been chosen to go to the Adapted Aquatics program to become more confident in their swimming ability as well as learn a variety of new aquatic skills. This program has been something that our students have looked forward to participating in every year. Our students will be more than ready to show off their skills at the pool this Summer!

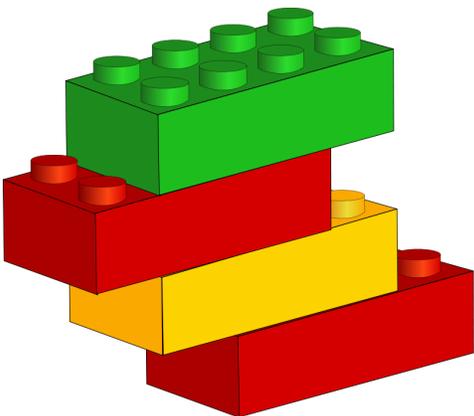
LEGO LEARNING IN THE LIBRARY -MRS. DROESSLER



Libraries are much more than research and reading. Libraries around the world are finding ways to engage students in innovative, creative ways to reach higher levels of thinking and develop problem solving skills. One of these ways is through the use of LEGOS in the library:

“Legos inspire fantastic narrative storytelling. I love seeing what transpires at the table,” she says. “I see stories about students’ lives, imaginations and dreams unfolding.” -*jalcon Legos: A New Frontier for Libraries*

Our 2nd Graders had the opportunity to build whatever they wanted with LEGOS during their library time. Some of them built a football field and stadium, an ocean beach, duck lake and a duckie daycare. Upon completion of their project, they are learning about the parts of a book and developing their own story using complete sentences. Library time is never long enough with this fun group!!!



The library is looking for donations of LEGOS to our collection, so if you have some we would be happy to take them off your hands!!!



MODERN WARS-MR. DROESSLER



The Seniors in Modern Wars class and Mr. Droessler have been working with the Army National Guard and Sergeant Thies to learn more about the modern American soldier. Sergeant Thies has brought in a full armor battlefield uniform, night vision and thermal vision optics, and a battlefield ready Humvee for our class to inspect and use. On December 17th, the Modern Wars class will travel to the Army National Guard station in Madison to use computer simulators to replicate flying a helicopter and a jetfighter. Thank you to Sergeant Thies and the Army National Guard for allowing us to have this hands-on, real world experience.

BUSINESS EDUCATION-MR. MANKE



It has been a pleasure to get to know each and every one of the students!

The 7th/8th Grade Computers classes have greatly improved their typing speed with every student increasing their typing speed past 20 WPM! We have covered every row on the keyboard. We now are including the SHIFT key, and punctuation keys on the keyboard. As we learn more about the computer this school year, we will continue to increase each students' typing speed around 35-40 WPM using the "typingclub.com" website.

The Accounting students have been working very hard to learn how to translate multiple business transactions given, and put them into a journal, accounts, and a worksheet. As we progress throughout the semester, we will move on to making a worksheet at the end of

TUTOR-MRS. HULSE



On Tuesday, November 19, four students in seventh grade and four in eighth grade participated in CESA's competition of Quiz Bowl. There were 13 local schools involved this year. Each team participated in both a team competition and an individual competition. The students have no idea what the topics will be ahead of time, so preparing for it is difficult. Some topics were Current Events, U.S. Presidents, Astronomy, and Literature. The students had a lot of fun, but didn't place in the top 3 as a team. However, in the individual competition, Hanna Martensen placed 3rd out of 52 eighth graders! Overall, all of the students did a great job!



Front: Hanna Martensen, Sydney Mowry, Isabell Langkamp, Anna Richardson. Back: TJ Nelson, Porter Calvert, Rylan Meyer, Eli Blaine

Ribbon Winner:
Hanna Martensen



READING SPECIALIST MRS. WARD



Mrs. Ward's RTI groups are doing well with the Really Great Reading program. This program teaches the letters, their sounds, sight words, and rules for breaking down 2 or even 3 syllable words. The goal is for the students to be able to apply these skills in their Wonders reading books and even their science and social studies books.

The first graders are learning the difference between consonants and vowels. Every word has to have a vowel in it otherwise, it isn't a word. We are also working on reading sight words quickly, sounding out 3 letter words, and putting sounds together to make words.

The second graders are working on long and short vowels and now r-controlled vowels like /or/, /ar/, and /er/ sounds. They are working on breaking down 2 syllable words to be able to read them in context.

The fourth graders are tackling 2-3 syllable words and learning how to break unknown words to read the smaller syllables or chunks.

All three groups have been working on place value, addition, and subtraction at their respective levels. All groups have been using the websites iReady or IXL to help with their reading and math skills. These websites can also be used at home. If you have any questions about Title 1, please reach out to me at sward@benton.k12.wi.us.

MATH—MRS. RIVERA

"Students must create or recreate mathematical relationships in their own minds."

~A. C. Burris



I am currently the new math teacher covering the periods Algebra 2, Applied Math, Precalculus, and 8th grade math as of November 11, 2019. The last couple of weeks have gone by fast and I have learned a lot as a new teacher and future educator. I was born and raised in Dubuque, Iowa and currently live in Asbury, Iowa with my husband Octavio and children Ana (14) and Mateo (10). I spend much of my free time spending time biking, hiking and staying active with my family and our dog Coco (almost 4yrs).

ART DEPARTMENT-MRS. LIDDICOAT



Can you believe that it is almost Christmas!? We are working hard to finish up our Christmas goodies so that we can enjoy them for the holidays! We are building, painting, designing and coloring so that Santa can see we are on the nice list ;)





The British Literature class is a survey course, spanning the literature over several hundred years, starting with the first piece of literature written in the English language, the epic poem *Beowulf* (though admittedly it's written in "Ye Olde Englishe" and sounds more like Danish than English), and ending up in the 20th century with Orwell's dystopian drama, 1984. At the moment we're still firmly rooted in the Renaissance.

In addition to reading the literature of these periods, and studying the history of Great Britain (in order to put the literature in the context of when it was written), we also discuss the societal values and trends that the artwork and literature follow. In the English Renaissance, for example, there was a great emphasis put on the idea of the *artificial*. Now, when we think of something being artificial, it tends to have a negative connotation associated with it. Artificial means fake. But during the English Renaissance, artificial was more akin to the idea of artifice. Yes, it's fake, but it's man-made instead of made in nature. It's art, real, human art, crafted and created by masters. This idea is seen in the artwork of the period, of course, but also in the literature. In class, we studied the emphasis on the artificial in a form of poetry known as the Sonnet.

We tend to think of poetry as being loose, flowing like water, with easy rhythms and peaceful tones. Blank verse, little rhyme scheme sometimes. Or we think of poetry as music (maybe even rap music?) with steady rhythms and some slant rhymes, but no real rigid structure, per se. Sonnets, on the other hand, are rigid. They are fourteen line poems. Each line must be written in iambic pentameter (that means five iambs, a poetic foot of two syllables, where the first syllable is unstressed, and the second is stressed, effectively reading like "da-DUM da-DUM da-DUM da-DUM da-DUM"). Iambic pentameter is the most popular rhythm in poetry, due to it sounding reminiscent of a heart's beat. But this is *artifice!*

In addition to being written in this specific rhythm, and having fourteen lines, sonnets are also written with specific rhyme schemes. Assigning each rhyming sound at the end of a line a letter of the alphabet, a Shakespearean sonnet *invariably has the following rhyme scheme: A B A B C D C D E F E F G G.*

So, with the rhythm, rhyme, line lengths, and syllables, the structure of the sonnet is set in stone. But the internal meaning of the poem is also structured. In a Shakespearean sonnet, the first twelve lines, broken into three quatrains (four lines each), set up some kind of problem that needs to be solved. Since sonnets are usually love poems, the three quatrains might speak of some unrequited love, where the speaker is obsessed with someone who doesn't return their feelings. The rhyming couplet at the end, the last two lines, offers some kind of solution to that problem.

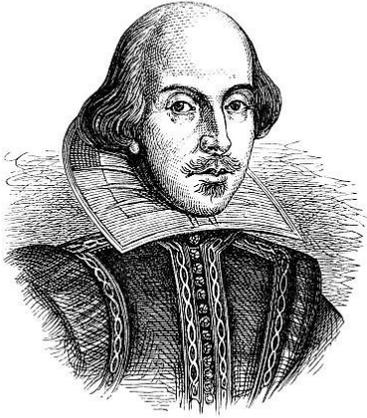
All this structure seems counterintuitive in an art form by our modern standards, but during the Renaissance, the artificial reigned supreme, and the sonnet was the crowning achievement of Renaissance poetry. So, naturally, the students had to try their own hand at writing sonnets.

When I ask students to write poetry in Creative Writing, many have a hard time with the blank verse style poems, where the emphasis of the poem is solely on the use of sound and metaphor. Without structure, students struggle. So one can assume that a very *structured poetic form, like the sonnet, might be a little less challenging. Hah. Hahahahaha...*

Anyway, here are a couple of examples of poems, one, written by the master himself, William Shakespeare (note the somewhat less-than-flattering way in which he describes his mistress. But no worries, he still loves her dearly), and another written by our very own Liberty Foht. Which do you like best?

(CONTINUED NEXT PAGE)

Sonnet 130
William Shakespeare



My mistress' eyes are nothing like the sun,
Coral is far more red than her lips' red.
If snow be white, why then her breasts are dun,
If hairs be wires, black wires grow on her head.
I have seen roses damasked, red and white,
But no such roses see I in her cheeks.
And in some perfumes is there more delight
Than in the breath that from my mistress reeks.
I love to hear her speak, yet well I know
That music hath a far more pleasing sound.
I grant I never saw a goddess go,
My mistress, when she walks, treads on the ground.
And yet, by Heaven, I think my love as rare
As any she belied with false compare.

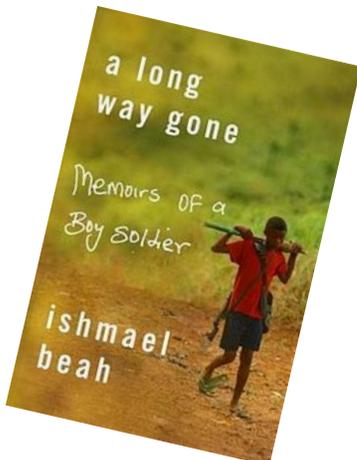
A Recital
Liberty Foht



Here is a little recital for you
About what lurks in the dark of the night;
If you are scared, I ask you to push through
Instead listen to me I do invite;
Do you hear that faint scratching at your door?
Or the whisper from behind your left ear?
These are the beings that live evermore
Like those that live in the tales of Shakespeare
Like ghouls, witches, fays, and werewolves alike
Invisible rulers of our planet;
Always ready to pounce, ready to strike

Like ravenous wolves after a rabbit;
If you're chased, never stop to catch your breath
What comes next is inevitable death.

MR. NEIS - SOCIAL SCIENCE



Currently in Social Problems the seniors are learning about child soldiers around the world. We have looked at statistics and readings to learn about the tragic life of these young soldiers. One of the readings is the book, *A Long Way Gone*, by Ishmael Beah. Beah was captured when he was just 13 years old by a rebel group in Sierra Leone. His book details what his life was like as a child soldier, and even about the rehab he had to endure before he was brought to the U.S. We are ending our unit by watching the Netflix movie, *Beasts of No Nation*, which follows the story of a young boy whose life is turned upside down when he is forced into war by a rebel group.



Environmental Science has joined a Statewide Water Inquiry Experience sponsored by Wisconsin Water and DPI. School across Wisconsin are using Siftr to upload their local water quality experiments for other educators to look at. Our experimental question is “What “things” are collected in water flowing over our parking lots and how might this impact the plants, fish, and watershed? The students picked a location on our parking lot and collected everything within a 10 ft. x 10 ft. area. We tested the contents for salt, nitrates, phosphates, pH and turbidity. We will collect again in a few weeks and retest to see what changes occurred. You can find our information as well as other students information at <https://siftr.org/WisconsinWater/#>



Forensic Science has been learning about how plants can catch a suspect in a crime, and are currently finding out that fingerprints are quite unique and difficult to categorize.

AP Biology is cruising right along gearing up for the BIG test. The current lab we are working on is how cells talk to each other. Yeast send out pheromones to indicate they are in the area and this causes this one-celled organism to enter reproduction.

Biology is entering into the engineering and design cycle of biological systems. Researching how cochlear implants, pacemakers, Cpap machines and prosthesis help our bodies maintain homeostasis.

Physics is busy working through acceleration as well as our Rube Goldberg Machine. This year's task is to turn OFF a light bulb. So far this machine is looking beachy! Our competition is at Discovery World on February 21st. Looking forward to a great competition.

Science 9 is atomic! They have explored the trends of the periodic table and are figuring out how to determine if a bond is ionic, covalent or metallic based on electro negativities. They are working toward a conductivity lab to support their claims of these bonds.

Anatomy wrapped up the Integumentary system with a variety of labs and presentations. Students mapped out sweat glands, looked at their fingerprints and hair, and presented a variety of skin disorders including vitiligo, poisonous plants, burns, acne, skin cancer and parasites - YUCK!



School District of Benton

Benton School Board

Ryan Carver, President
Angela Davis, Vice President
Jean O'Neill, Clerk
Mark Coffey, Treasurer
Bob Knight, Director
Brandi Miller, Director
Ryan Kern, Director



Todd Bastian, Superintendent
Lisa Lawrence, Principal

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www.benton.k12.wi.us

At the School Board Meeting on November 13, 2019 the Board voted policy 8500 - Food Services into effect. Part of the policy addresses negative lunch account balances. I have included that part of the policy below. If you have a negative account balance, please make every effort to pay the balance or call the school to work out a payment plan. The Benton School District is required to notify each household about the policy each year. It is our wish to continue to provide each child with a healthy meal. Please assist us in doing so.

Negative Account Balances

Students will be permitted to purchase meals from the District's food service using either cash on hand or a food service account. A student may be allowed to incur a negative food service account balance subject to the following conditions.

Families who participate in the School District of Benton Food Service Program, will be subject to the following policies and procedures:

Payment Policy

The Food Service Program is a pre-payment program. Families are expected to have a positive balance in their food service lunch account at the beginning of the year and during the course of the school program year.

1. Negative Balances

A. Account Thresholds: Elementary: Students will be allowed a \$-20.00 balance, before receiving an alternative meal. Middle/High: Students will be allowed a \$-10.00 balance, before receiving an alternative meal. Alternative meals are peanut butter sandwiches, a vegetable/fruit, and a beverage. Alternative meals still cost the food service program approximately \$0.75 per meal and that amount gets added to the family's lunch account negative balance.

B. Students with negative account balances will receive a reimbursable meal only and will not be allowed to purchase a la carte items. Once a student account is at zero, students may continue to purchase meals up to a -\$20.00 Elementary and -\$10.00 Middle/High School. Once the account reaches -\$20.00 Elementary and -\$10.00 Middle/High School the student will receive an alternate meal and all other purchases may be denied. Families having difficulty making deposits should contact the school office to make arrangements. Reduced priced and free meals are available to those who qualify and an application can be obtained from the school that your student attends.

2. Account Balances

A. Families will be notified when their student account reaches a positive \$5.00 through e-mail, text message, and/or district phone system.

B. Parents may restrict students from making additional purchases by calling the school office. A message will show up on the account which will notify the lunch cashier. The restriction on the system will show up from year to year unless the school office is contacted through e-mail (cjohnson@benton.k12.wi.us).

C. Student balances and purchases made on accounts are available on the District website using the e-Funds tab. Payments can also be sent to the school office.

Staff Meals

Staff meals may be purchased at a price determined by the Food Service Department. To be eligible for the staff meal price, portions for individual items may not exceed those given to the high-school aged students. Adults may not have a negative balance at any time.

Thanks for your time and assistance in this matter.

Todd Bastian
Superintendent
Benton School District

NOTES FROM THE KITCHEN



To begin the Holiday Season, the kitchen collaborated with the Art Department to bring the Countdown to Christmas. Every day the kids eat, names are put into a lottery system and then the next day that child gets to punch their number of day until Christmas.

Now that the school year is well underway, we are as committed as ever to the academic success of all of our students. The first and best tool that we can use to make sure all of our students are successful in school is to guarantee that each child begins the day with a healthy and nutritious breakfast – at home or at school. We want to remind you that the School Breakfast Program is available to all students at the **Benton School Cafeteria**

every school day from **7:30A.M. – 8:10A.M.** No advanced registration is necessary. These supervised meals are nutritionally balanced and vary daily.

School Breakfast is an ideal solution on busy mornings when kids are running late or parents have early work schedules. Kids are not always hungry when they first wake up but are ready to eat when school begins. Whatever the reason, if breakfast at home is not convenient, please take advantage of breakfast here at school. Studies have shown that children who eat a nutritious breakfast have better behavior, better attendance, and improved test scores.

Thank you for helping us to make sure that all of our students start the school day alert, well fed and ready to learn.

Sincerely,
The Kitchen Staff

Coming up: National School Breakfast week is March 2-6, 2020. We will be having local celebrities serve breakfast. Friday, March 6 will be bring your Parent to Breakfast. Come see what the kitchen has to offer our students.

ATTENDANCE LINE

(608)759-4002 Press 1

Did you know that we have a 24/7 attendance line?

Call (608)759-4002 press 1.

You can call this number anytime to report absences, appointments, etc. Please leave the student's name, grade, and reason for absence. If a parental absences is being used please be aware a note needs to be submitted to the office PRIOR to the absence. All other absence do require a written note or email upon the student returning to school.

Please schedule appointment on days school is not in session or after school if possible. If you child does need to leave during the school day please send a written note to school with your child. They should then obtain a pass from the office to leave class (this helps reduce classroom interruptions).



Dear Parents:

If you haven't signed up for Skyward Family Access and downloaded the Skyward App from your APP Store it is not too late!

Family Access

Who it's for: Parents and students

What's available: With the Family Access mobile app, parents can...

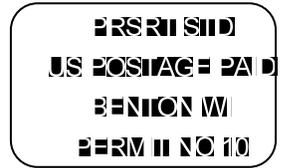
- Access their kids' academic history
- Check their students' grades
- Monitor their current and upcoming assignments
- View their children's attendance records
- Check your child's lunch balance and usage
- View messages from teachers and other members of their child's education team

Easily switch student profiles to view information for each of their children, without having to log in again

Contact Cheryl Johnson if you would like to be connected to Skyward Family Access:
cjohnson@benton.k12.wi.us

Instruction on downloading the app may be viewed at: <https://youtube/IWJUSSL0FM>

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BENTON
41 ALMA STREET
PO BOX 7
BENTON, WI 53803**



**CURRENT RESIDENT
BENTON, WI 53803**

BENTON SCHOOL BOARD

Ryan Carver, President

Angela Davis, Vice-President

Jean O'Neill, Clerk

Mark Coffey, Treasurer

Brandi Miller, Member

Bob Knight, Member

Ryan Kern, Member

Regular monthly meetings are held the
2nd Wednesday of each month beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the high school library.