March 2025 Issue 7

#### **MONTHLY NEWS**

# 100 Days and Beyond!

February has gone by so fast! On the 14th we had Valentine's Day in school and the first annual MAACS competition academic testing. We didn't have school on the 17th because of President's Day. On the 18th and 19th, record snowfall kept us home. On the 28th, the kindergarten through second grade students went on a field trip to Wonders of Wildlife aquarium. On Feb 26, the middle school and high school taught a special Chapel to the elementary grades. March is here with lots of upcoming events! Be sure to check the calendar on the next page and catch up with all the photos.

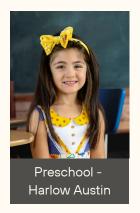
"FORGIVENESS BRINGS US CLOSER TO THOSE THAT HAVE HURT US AND HELPS THEM TO EXPERIENCE THE FORGIVENESS AND LOVE OF JESUS THROUGH US WHO FORGIVES THEM."

-OMOAKHUANA ANTHONIA



## Students of the Month

Each month students of the month from high school, middle school, elementary, and preschool are nominated and voted in by teachers. This month's character quality is Organization. Someone who is organized "keeps their possessions, projects, and commitments in a tidy, effective, systematic fashion for maximum efficiency." Other nominations included Mayzie Priebe, Zipporah Torres, Adrienne King, and Miya Summerhill. Next month's character quality to exemplify for student of the month recognition will be the quality of Confidence. Read about confidence in our devotional this month!











## Dear Journal,

How do you stay positive in difficult situations?

**Mykee:** "I remember its not the end of the world."

**Miya:** "By remembering I'm not alone, there are other people around me who will support me, and so will God. The struggles and situations that are on earth don't compare to the treasures up in heaven. I'm also a glass half full person, so I see the bright side of things. If all else fails, I talk to my therapist."

**Isabella:** "I pray about it, and while it is hard to stay positive in hard situations, I try."

**Liam:** "Do nothing and bottle it up until I cry later in a place where I feel safe to. So I probably won't. Bad advice, I know."

**Michael:** "Remembering that, whatever happens, it's part of God's plan, and ultimately helps me."

**Niya:** "I know that I have God, and I can always talk to him about anything."

**Adrienne:** "I stay positive in difficult situations by praying and asking God to give me strength to get through those difficult situations."

Mrs. Austin: "Keep your focus on your ultimate goals and remember that the sufferings of our present time are not worthy to be compared to the glory that will be revealed in us one day in Heaven! All our trials here on earth are opportunities to earn eternal rewards. Count yourself lucky to get to cash that in because everybody has a difficult life in their own way. You're never alone in any struggle too! Whenever I was giving birth, I would focus on the other women laboring at the exact same time as me as well as the thousands before me and it would inspire me with the realization that my experience was really no big deal and so normal. Keeping that in mind can help you 'just do it!'"

**Olivia:** "I just pray and hope for the better."

# **Upcoming Events**

Mar. 3-7 - Read Across America Week

Mar. 5 - Ash Wednesday

Mar. 6 - Family Night at Wendy's

Mar. 7 - Sinkhole Field Trip & End Of Quarter

Mar. 9 - End Of Book Fair

Mar. 11 - Johnny Appleseed Day

Mar. 14 - Science Fair Experimentation Deadline

Mar. 17 - Saint Patrick's Day

Mar. 20 - First Day Of Spring Break

Mar. 20-21 - MAACS Competition

Mar. 21 - World Down Syndrome Day

# **Birthdays**

Leo Thompson - Mar. 2

Miss Hannah Estes - Mar. 3

Sariyah Mays - Mar. 4

Audrey Austin - Mar. 6

Isla Austin - Mar. 6

Mrs. Renee Weaver - Mar. 9

Aiden Vela - Mar. 10

Mr. Steve Eberharter - Mar. 16

Ryker Ireland - Mar. 17

Miss Micheala Allen - Mar. 18

Jayden Dickinson - Mar. 19

Kirby's Dream Land 2 - Mar. 21

Binyahmin Nabors - Mar. 22

Mrs. Amber Ferrell - Mar. 25

Aeyson Alaniz - Mar. 25

Wade Harvey - Mar. 25

Rylee Vargas - Mar. 25

Miss Mary Barnes - Mar. 29

Joseph Kamau-Njuguna - Mar. 29

Dobson Brooks - Mar. 31



## Teacher of the Month

#### MRS. HEATHER GOLDSMITH

A teacher is chosen each month to be featured as teacher of the month! For the month of March, Mrs. Heather Goldsmith was chosen. She was born in Florida, and grew up in Saint Lucie with her two brothers. It was here that she cultivated her love of quality time with family and being close to them. Her fondest memory from childhood is spending time with her family, but specifically her memories with her grandma. Her Grandma was also the most influential person in her life guiding her in the career path Mrs. Goldsmith eventually chose to pursue, because her grandma was a teacher as well. Mrs. Goldsmith started teaching at eleven years old for a Sunday school and from that point she went to early education in college. God truly has been using Mrs. Goldsmith all her life and she found her calling early because of this. She truly shows the fruits of the spirit in all aspects of her life and we are glad to have her. Mrs. Goldsmith started her walk with Christ when she was younger as she was raised in the church and even though she did start her walk early she says, "Even though you're a Christian, you still have dark days, but that's why I'm so grateful for faith."

While she was in the youth group she also found her future spouse. Her first date was on a youth trip in which she went ice skating with Mr. Goldsmith. She dated him for four years before he joined the military, and despite some bumps in their marriage they live happily and for God.

However, despite being happy here, her ideal place to live is somewhere tropical. Whether that be on the beaches in Hawaii or in Polynesian bungalow she loves being near the ocean and near sunny beaches. Wit,h this, her ideal day doesn't require much, only a slow start to the day and sleeping in. Currently, she has two dogs, three bunnies, and seven cats. Among all these pets, her favorites are Belle the cat and Rex the bunny.

Following all these questions, we had some things that we were curious about. One of these being if any of her old family traditions were still



Mrs. Heather Goldsmith - PreK Aide Teacher

carried on and in the interview she cheerfully told us that they still share their Thanksgiving meals in which she always makes squash casserole.

Along with this, if she could have one answer to any question it would be, "Why do we have snakes?" We truly are glad to have Mrs. Goldsmith and her awesome humor on the Westside teaching staff for the last five years and hope to enjoy many more years of her service. She truly shows her walk with God well and also shows the fruits of the spirit abundantly in her day to day life.

Interview by Liam Ordonez, Miya Summerhill, Michael Parker, & Olivia Montgomery Article by Miya Summerhill

# Staff Member Highlight of the Month MR. DANIEL BARNES

Each month we choose a standout individual to be our staff member of the month. This month, we chose and interviewed our school's librarian and substitute teacher Dan Barnes, and we got a bunch of cool info about him!

Q. Where were you born?

"I was born in a small town in upstate New York."

Q. Do you have any siblings or pets, if so how many? "I have an older brother and two younger sisters. I have 2 dogs one is a black lab, her name is Dixie, and a German shepherd whose name is Athena. We have two cats one is Faith and one is Grace."

Q. When did you know your spouse was the one? "The moment I saw her, I took one look at her and I knew she was the one."

Q. What is the best memory from your childhood? "I lived in upstate New York, so we would get a lot of snow. I remember building snow forts and sledding and making jumps, and stuff like that."

Q. How do you like to spend your spare time? "I have a little workshop where we do wood crafts and build things or we spend time outdoors, hunting, fishing, or gardening."

Q. Why did you start working here and how did you know it was your calling from God?

"Well, Ms. King was talking about having a library in the school, and so I said I would do it and be the librarian. I'm retired I have nothing better to do and I like working with kids. I like reading sometimes, I'm not a big reader but I read occasionally so I thought why not go on and do it?"

#### Q. What is your testimony?

"We were doing Upward here. Henry and Gavin started Upward since kindergarten, so five years old. They started, and we did it all the way up until when Covid came. And they were in their last season of Upward and towards the end, they realised they wanted to go



to Westside Baptist Church so we came to Westside for an Easter service and the boys got saved that year. We put them in school that year, and I remember going through Judgment House one day, and God spoke to me and said that I am not being a role model or godly parent or husband and I just worked on me and everything I have been through He was with me but I never surrendered to Him, I knew I had to do that for my boys, so I gave my life to Christ, and He used me and has been using me ever since.

(continued on the next page...)

## Staff Member Highlight of the

### Month...Continued

Q. Who is the most influential person in your life

"That's my wife, hands down, Gretchen. She is tough, everything we have gone through with my injuries in the military and never once did she have any doubt or leave or anything. Her strength in dealing with me and dealing with our two boys at the time and learning our new life together, and how different it would be I couldn't drive for a while, and she never complained.

#### Q. Where was your first date?

"It was on Valentine's Day, and she got tickets to a rodeo, so she asked me on the first date. We have been together for 28 years and married for 25 years."

#### Q. What was your first job?

"I would shovel snow, and I would also rake leaves in the summertime. We lived in a neighborhood where your neighbors were very close, and we lived on a street with a lot of elderly. I also worked on a farm helping with hay in the summer, but my first real job was I worked at McDonalds for a little bit before I joined the military."

# Q. Of the seven continents, which have you visited and why?

"I've been to Europe a couple times, I was stationed in Germany. While we were in Germany we went to Rome. It is a beautiful city, but I think Germany was the best."

#### Q. Describe your perfect day?

"My perfect day would be a day with my wife of course, other than that it would be outside. Even mowing the grass is fun for me.

#### Q. What is a family tradition you still uphold?

"Almost all the time we eat dinner together. We have to eat as a family, but of course there are sometimes we can't, but we try our best to eat together every day. Q. What is the most difficult decision you had to make?

"The most difficult decision for me was something I didn't choose. It was when I was deployed to Korea, and I had to tell Gretchen I had to leave. We had only been together for 1 month at the time."

Q. If you were guaranteed an answer to ANY question what would it be and why?

"For me it would be why did Adam give into the temptation and why didn't he stand up for what's right and be the leader he was meant to be? But he let Sin or the devil outsmart him."

Q. If you were to live anywhere besides Missouri, where would it be?

"Probably somewhere in the middle, because if you go to north it is to cold if you go to south it's too hot. So probably Colorado."

Q. How do you stay in a calm mindset throughout the day?

"Just knowing that children are God's creation and try to be as patient as I can, so they can see Jesus through me. And knowing they are God's children.

Thank you for reading this article! I hope you all enjoyed reading more about Mr. Barnes. He makes a big difference every day volunteering at Westside in the school and church.

Interview done by: Michael Parker, Adrienne King, & Izabella Torres
Article by Michael Parker



# Staff Member of February continued into March news...

#### MS. LUCINDA SNYDER

Ms.Snyder was born in Johnson county, Tennessee. She says it was a very small town where everyone knows everyone. She has two siblings. She has an older brother and a younger brother. Her older brother still lives in Tennessee and her younger brother lives with her here. She has three cats one is a yellow orange tabby, she is also a polydactyl which means he has extra toes her name is Tangelo. Then she has a black cat which is a bombay. His name is Lewis. She also has a gray and brown tabby named Fletcher. Her little dog is Chewbacca. In her spare time she usually does something with her daughter or she likes to hang out with her animals and read with her cats and do nothing.

She has been engaged to a wonderful man, and she knew he was the one when we went on our third date and he said "when I asked you to go out and eat I meant both of you" (referring to Maylee and Ms. Snyder).

Her grandmother was a seamstress, that's how she made money. Ms.Snyder remembers sitting there and she would do quilting with her grandma. Ms. Snyders said that was her favorite childhood memory.

Her favorite book is Parallel Journeys; it had a profound impact on her when she was younger. The book is told from the perspective of a child in Hitler youth and then a young lady that was a mother taken in the Holocaust. They both told their story separately and now they lecture together. They wrote a book together to show even though this young man was shown in part of Hitler youth that Hitler youth was just as much a victim of Hitler that the Jewish population was. That is why this is her favorite book.

Ms.Snyder has always wanted to be a teacher. She thinks it might be because her great aunt had been a teacher so it was kind of 'expected of her'. She did



Mrs. Heather Goldsmith - PreK Aide Teacher

realise that this is something she wanted to do since she was in highschool. Ms.Snyder alway saw the highschool kids with special needs and how they had the special table and nobody would go over to them and talk to them, not even the teachers. For the clasrooms she would in she would go in a volunteer program to go in and work with the special needs. When she went in there she noticed that teachers would kind of just let them sit there. Ms.Snyder didn't think that was right at all, because I knew they could learn as good as anyone else. She thinks God just used that moment to show her that she needs to do something with working with kids in special ed, that's what it turned into. Ms.Snyder was a grand PK kid. Her grandfather was a Southern Baptist minister; he had the same church for over thirty years. She always grew up in church so when she

# Staff Member of February continued into March news...

#### MS. LUCINDA SNYDER

(continued from previous page...) was younger she thought well I know who Jesus and learn all about him and that's all it is. Then one day she went to camp for a children's Bible mission. What they did is they would take students (with the permission of the parents) from a school bus then to the local church once a month and then we would have a Bible lesson and sing songs .We did this cool thing through the mail called the Mailbox Club and then they had camp at Johnson county. It was Ms. Snyders first year and she absolutely loved it. When she got there they talked about how to get saved and they read the Roman road and showed that path. All week Ms.Snyder felt that something was missing. She was eight years old at the time and she was going to be nine years old. She felt so confused about this. She would do all this good work. She would go to church and stuff like that. This kept nagging her so she ended up speaking to a counselor, the counselor's name is Laura. Laura talked to me and said "you do understand just because your grandpas a preacher and you go to church doesn't mean you're saved". Laura explained the Roman road to Ms. Snyder a little bit more and at the end of that week she accepted Jesus. It took a couple of years for Ms. Snyder to get baptized after that. It was a cold creek with rushing water not like how Westide baptizes, so that made her a little bit more scared as a kid. Ms. Snyder said "it was an honor for my grandfather to be one of the ones who baptized me". I loved hearing more about Ms.Snyder and writing this article about her. I really got to know more about her as a person.

Interview by Olivia Montgomery, Adrienne King, Michael Parker, Niya Fox, and Izabella Torres. Article by Izabella Torres



Mrs. Heather Goldsmith - PreK Aide Teacher

### Comic



By Mykal Walsh

### How to...

### MAKE A CAKE STEP-BY-STEP

How to make a cake step-by-step.

First: prep.

You most likely need eggs, milk, and oil which is sometimes substituted for butter. While you're at it, preheat your oven to the time written on the back of the box.

Second: mix.

You then want to combine all the ingredients and mix until they reach a smooth consistency.

Third: pour.

You will want to butter your pans and then evenly pour the batter in the pans and put them in the oven and cook them to the time on the back of the box

Fourth: cooling.

Then, pull out your cakes when they're done and prick them with a toothpick. If they come out with pure batter, they're not done, but if they have no crumbs, they're overcooked, so a few crumbs is okay. Then, you want to transfer it to a plate and even them out, then let them cool in the fridge or freezer or just on your countertop.

Fifth: decorating.

Once its fully cooled then you can start decorating. Decorating of your choice and everything coming together is the best thing.

Sixth: serve.

Serve to others or eat it alone.

Article and cake by Olivia Montgomery





# **Devotional CONFIDENCE**

LIVINGROOM

Let go of your expectation of

## CERTAINTY

and embrace your

## CONFIDENCE IN GOD.

EMILY P. FREEMAN

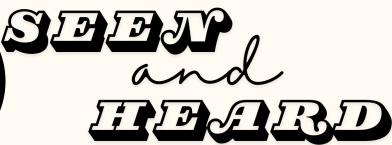
### God-fi-dence

knowing i can't but knowing He will.

confidence in God,
is humility
and hard work.
IT IS PUSHING AHEAD
knowing that
God is powerful
to fulfill anything He
asks of you!

"I CAN DO ALL
THINGS
THROUGH
CHRIST WHO
STRENGTHENS
ME" (PHIL. 4:13).

"FINALLY, BROTHERS, WHATEVER IS TRUE,
WHATEVER IS HONORABLE, WHATEVER IS JUST,
WHATEVER IS PURE, WHATEVER IS LOVELY,
WHATEVER IS COMMENDABLE, IF THERE IS ANY
EXCELLENCE, IF THERE IS ANYTHING WORTHY OF
PRAISE, THINK ABOUT THESE THINGS."
PHILIPPIANS 4:8 ESV



# Good Reports worthy of PRAISE

- Miss Mary said Gavin and Henry Barnes helped put up chairs after lunch.
  - Mrs. Box gave out candy on Valentine's day.
  - Dr. Hartley shoveled the parking lot when it snowed.
- Mr. Morison said Doctor Hartley shoveled the snow off the sidewalk.
- Dan Barnes said Josslynn Murrieta helped her friends with their work when they were struggling
- Mrs. Green said Alayna helped her classmates clean up
- Mrs. Abby Conner said Cason, Elijah, and Caleb her whenever she needs help
- Mrs. Danielle Williams said her students helped her clean up the classroom
  - Adele Weir helped Andrew Bowen find his page in bible
  - $\circ \;\;$  The class helped clean up the art classroom
- Alice Weir helped carry chairs
- Isabella Salgado has been very helpful to her classmates
- Lilly Reynolds helped her friends open their milk at lunch

Please share your Good Reports with Adrienne King, Mykee Walsh, Miya Summerhill, Niya Fox, and Izabella Torres to let the good be seen and heard!





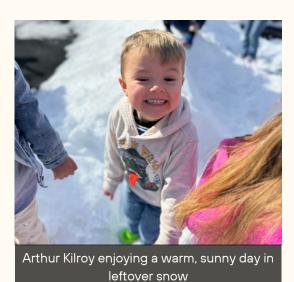
## Classes at work



Lorelei Ferrell and Ayden Walsh look on as hydrogen peroxide and yeast chemically react at 99.9°F



Mrs. Bates' PK4 class playing in centers





Ms. Jones' Kindergarten class painting



Middle school and high school participating in the first annual MAACS academic competition!





SEND YOUR CLASS PHOTOS TO BE FEATURED AND PUBLISHED!



Mrs. Abby Connor's 4th grade class collected Valentines from as many states as possible





Claire Hicks records data on a ph experiment with cabbage water



# Classes on the 100th day of school

I'm 100 days

. Smarter



Mrs. Bates & Mrs. Goldsmith with PreK4



Sorting 100 chocolate kisses with Mrs. Conner



Mrs. Weir helping with 100 day projects



5th Grader Allie Green in her hand made 100 day shirt



Kindergarteners headed to the next station



Prek4 Vivian Earl





lst grader Kai Castiel Dotimas and class





4th grader Joaquin Murrieta

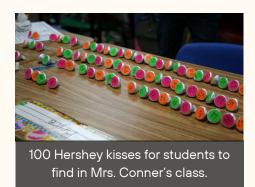


4th grader Bryce Box & Blake Williams





#### 100TH DAY OF SCHOOL... CONTINUED





Ms. Goldsmith and Ms. Bates celebrating the 100th day of school by dressing like they're 100 years old



Kindergarteners completing a 100th day of school paper.



5th graders doing 100 workouts in Mrs. Hulst's classroom.



Elementary teachers dressing like there one hundred years old for 100th day of school.



4th graders completing

a 100 piece puzzle.

First graders making a tower with 100 cups.



Kindergarteners completing a 100th day of school activity with Marylee.



Miya taking pictures for 100th day of school..

## Classes **ON VALENTINE'S DAY**







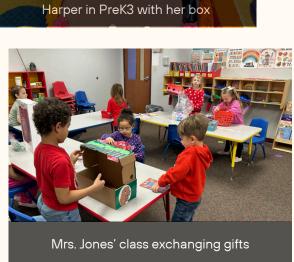


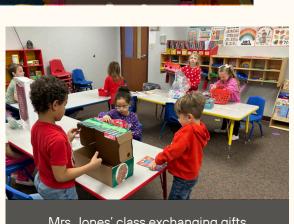






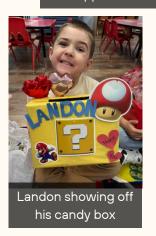








preschool made for Valentines day



## **What We Meme**









#### The Westside Herald Staff

Please direct any questions, comments, recommendations, corrections, photos, news, and good reports to the yearbook class at yearbook@wcawaynesville.com.

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Liam Ordonez & Mrs. Johanna Austin

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