

Elise Mutscheknaus

# Panther Press

## Christmas Edition

# 2020

Koby Koppelboen

Wesley  
Parker



Charm  
Nelson

Ryan P.



Cielo



★



★

Kaden  
L.



Art by: Addie Nelson



Tanner Stevens



## Class News

**Kindergarten:** Kindergarten is so excited for the Christmas party and the Polar express party. We have been working so hard, we are looking forward to a fun day. We hope everyone has a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**First Grade:** Hellooo, Burke Central Panthers!! This quarter has been busy with quarantine, but we're happy everyone in first grade is back & healthy! We're starting to get our noses in chapter books. The Junie B. Jones series is our favorite! We're continuing to work on new reading & math strategies! Speaking of new... We have an addition to our classroom. His name is Kringle! He's an elf from the North Pole. He's looking for kind and caring students. We're hoping we're on Santa's good list this year! Have a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year! **FIRST GRADE IS THE BEST!!** :)

**Second Grade:** Merry Christmas! Every day I can feel the anticipation of Christmas building in our classroom. The second graders have been working diligently in math and reading! We recently read a story about "How to Catch Santa." One second grader had excellent advice: "If you try to catch Santa, you may end up on the naughty list." We all agreed! We have written our letters to Santa! We have also completed a short writing for our local newspaper. Be sure to check the Burke County Tribune! We hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas and enjoy the break! See you in 2021!

**Third Grade:** Well, our class has done well with the face mask requirements and I think we are used to them now. Our class is working at keeping the 6 ft. social distancing and masks requirements. Overall, I'd give our class a grade of an A, but I think we can do better. The third grade class has received two pizza parties for meeting the required minutes with the Reading Plus Intervention program. The class blew the socks off the MAP test for reading and writing. The goal is to continue to get better. Two third grade students received an award. Zander Walters got the First Quarter Student of the Month reward and Connor Smith received the Principal's Award for the First Quarter. Congratulations to them both. All our third grade students are doing well. We are excited for the Christmas program. We want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

**Fourth and Fifth Grades:** We have been working hard this semester. We are all looking forward to Christmas Break. We are excited to sleep in, relax, and spend some time with family. We want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! See you all in 2021!

**Sixth Grade:** The 6th grade is so excited about Christmas break. Here are our recommendations on how to spend your vacation....

1. Hang around with your family. Andrew
  2. Spend time with family. Bubba
  3. Catch up on your sleep. Zahrauna
  4. Spend time with your family. Kari
  5. Play games and board games with friends and family. Tey
- Have a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year!

**Seventh Grade:** We are all ready for Christmas break. We have survived our first semester in seventh grade.

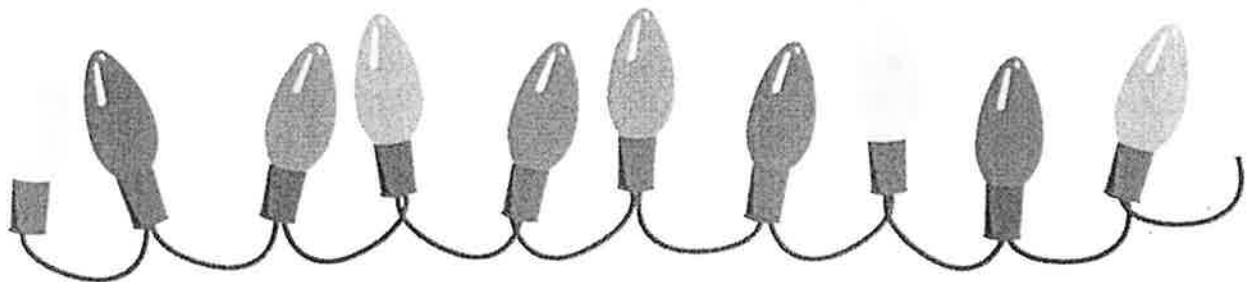
**Eighth Grade:** Basketball has officially started for both boys and girls. We are really excited for Christmas break. Kayel, Cannen, and Audrey joined FBLA. Braedyn does not want us to mention his birthday was on Dec. 14. Kayel's is Dec. 27. (Don't forget her gift!) Chas is our newest classmate. We are glad to have her. Audrey has been going to horse clinics IN DECEMBER! We are all loving the mild weather. Toby is looking for clipso and styx mk vl. Fernanda is excited for track season. Rocio is still skating! J.C. is a secret spy for the Canadians. His full name is. . . (TOP SECRET). \*SNORT\*

**Ninth Grade:** We are very excited for basketball season. Jonny, Hannah, and Kyra are all playing. We are not prepared for finals! Christmas is almost here and we are ready. Alexis can't wait to visit her dad in Oregon. Merry Christmas, everybody!

**Tenth Grade:** We are stressed because of midterms. We are happy to still be alive. Lynnndon, Garrett, and Xander are going to start lifting with Ray. Lexi doesn't need to because she eats catsup on grilled cheese. Wry's working all the time!

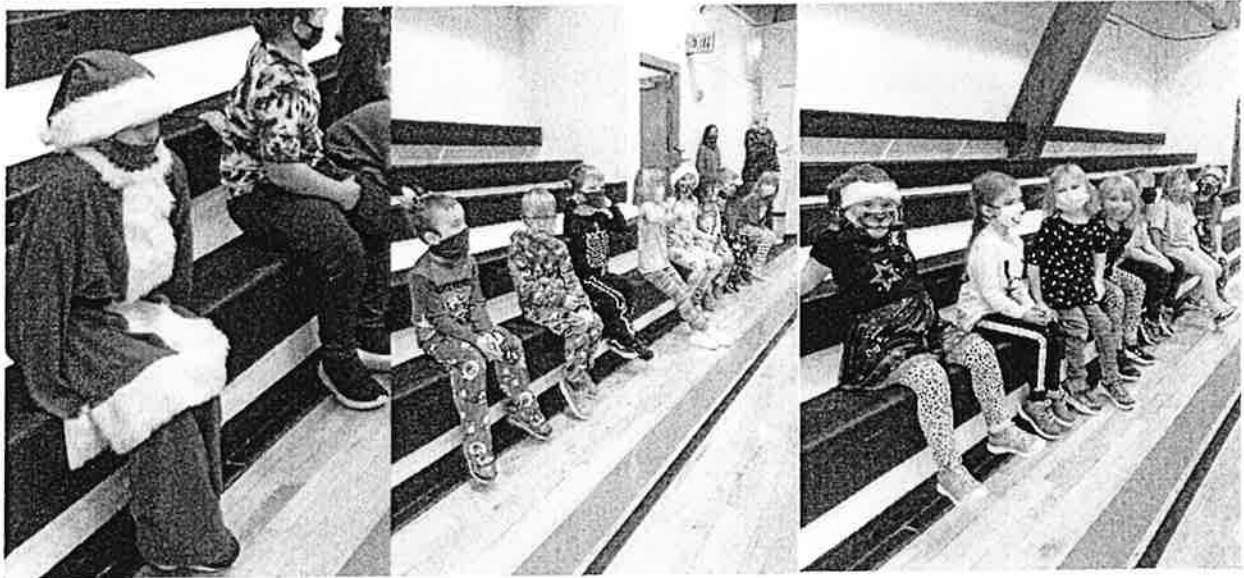
**Eleventh Grade:** Kenadee enjoyed going to Bismarck for her CNA class. We are all glad to be reunited after many quarantines! Alysun is waiting for speech season. Prairie is writing poetry again. Basketball is going swell. We're excited for the holidays.

**Twelfth Grade:** "AAAAAAAAAAAAAH!" Tanner exclaimed about finals. The seniors are ready for Christmas break. Koby, Ryen, and Kaden joined basketball and are hopeful about a good season. Isaac and Alex are wrestling. Cielo is working as a CNA! Elise is looking forward to the Science Bowl and Life Smarts.



## Christmas Concert 2020

This year's Christmas concert will be a special sight for all to see. This year's concert will feature songs from the high school band and choir and the 4-6<sup>th</sup> band, and the elementary will be putting on a play. Songs from the high school band include: "Joy to the World," "Frosty the Snowman," "Deluge," "Cadet's Cavalcade," along with songs from the high school choir such as "Silent Night," "Do You Hear What I Hear?" and the high school girls' choir will be singing their piece "Storm." The Elementary will be putting on a play "Toys," where the toys will come alive under the Christmas tree. The play will star many roles such as Andrew Patzer as Jack in the Box and Danish Qureshi as Santa Claus. K-6 will have many speaking parts throughout the play. The Concert will feature contemporary dance numbers such as the "Covid Tango" and the "Twist." The Director of the concert Ms. Susan O'Neil says, "The kids are having fun and are ready for the play." The kids will miss the audience they would usually get for the concerts. The high school body is encouraged to go watch and support their play. Ms. O'Neil is very thankful for the help from the teachers for allowing them to get extra practices to put on a play of this caliber. The play will be recorded and posted on the Burke Central School's Facebook page for all the family, and community members to see. The concert will be held on Monday, December 21, at 1:00.



## Get to Know More about Ali Moore

By Elise



Allison Moore is from a small-town in upstate New York called Ogdensburg. She likes to be called Ali. She has a Mom, Dad (Mr. Moore) and two older brothers. She said she decided to come to Lignite because quarantine left an uncertain feeling, and she felt the need to get out of New

York and experience more.

She said she was Lone Wolf and prefers to go against the herd. She likes to teach people. Her favorite part about Burke Central is she enjoys the people. Her hobbies include reading, writing, soccer, and foreign films. Ali's favorite films are the Harry Potter series and *Citizen Cain*. She said she likes chicken wing dip and Taco Bell quesadillas. Her favorite treat is cucumbers. Ali will soon be going home during Christmas, but we hope that her time at Burke Central was fun and enjoyable.

# GIRLS' BASKETBALL

By: Alex Bly

The 2020-2021 Burke County Girls' Basketball team is excited to start a brand-new season! The Titans have a young team this year, comprising of 1 senior, 1 junior, 4 freshmen, and 2 junior high students. However, COVID-19 has affected the season quite a lot. The season started late this year, with practices only allowed after Nov. 30 and games only allowed after Dec. 15. Masks must be worn during practices, and at games, there is a reduced attendance for the audience to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. When asked about the season, junior player Kenadee Merritt said that it's a young team with lots of freshmen and eighth graders, and that this year their goal is to work together and grow as a team. It looks like this year will be great for our Titans, so wish them good luck! Their first game will be on Friday, December 18 at Parshall.



# 2020-2021 Boys Basketball

By Koby Koppelsloen



This year for varsity boys' basketball, it is mandatory to wear masks during practice and on the bench during games. This is very new to us and we all had to take the first couple practices just to get sort of used to it. The roster for this year includes Jonny Kostecky (freshman), Carson Thingvold, Luke Crosby, Noah Erickson, and Web Lowry (sophomores), Kaiden Enander and Tommy Ankenbauer (juniors), and Ryen Peterson, Bo Thingvold, Caleb Erickson, and Koby Koppelsloen (seniors). We have plenty of size this year with only four players listed under six foot and two players listed at six foot four. We played our first game December 14 against Stanley, in the Stanly Holiday Tournament, and won big with the score 55-42. We have plenty of small issues to fix throughout the season, but it is looking promising. From what we can tell from our practices and our only game, we really have improved from last year and will look to push ourselves to a winning season. We hope to make it to regionals this year, but like every other year the main goal is to make it to state to represent our schools with hopes to win it all.



# Wrestling

Isaac Nelson



The 2020-2021 wrestling season is going well for Burke Central seniors Alex Bly and Isaac Nelson, both in their third year of wrestling, competing alongside 1 other senior, and 19 other athletes. The whole team is determined to make the best of the season, in spite of tight COVID regulations. The first tournament at Kenmare would have been on Saturday, December 19. There is a Quad in DLB on December 22. After the New Year, the team will have a Triangular in Kenmare and a Quad in Velva, continuing with a similar pace for the rest of the season.

# Christmas Traditions

By Cielo

Christmas traditions. Traditions are so different between Honduras and the United States that the distance feels even greater. The lights on the tree are the same, but we do not have a fireplace, so it makes me wonder where Santa comes in to leave our gifts. In my country, we do not make cookies or snowmen. (Well, we do not have snow, so that explains everything.)

In my country, we do not have the opportunity to kiss anyone under the mistletoe. However, we dance the night away, the children play, and the adults dance until they can't feel their feet. We drink eggnog, a drink that we traditionally make in my country. We do not have a white Christmas, just a loving Christmas to share with the family.



On December 31, in the United States people count the seconds, and finally at 12:00 they shout, "Happy New Year" and toast.

On the other hand, throughout December, we put together a doll and fill it with fireworks. On December 31, we light it at midnight in the middle of the streets, representing the year that is leaving, and leaving everything behind to start over.



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If you want to travel around the world next year, we have a tradition for this too. Before the end of the year, everyone takes their suitcases and goes out of their houses to the streets. Suitcases represent for us the law of attraction.

This means that if you leave your house at midnight with your bags pretending that you are going on a trip, you will really go on a trip that year. My cousins traveled to Chile the first time they did this. I did it once and ended up in the USA. What do you think? Our Christmases are different, but just as fun.

# SENIOR FAVORITE SONGS

Tanner "Hotel California" Eagles

Cielo "Take on Me" a-ha

Alex "Upside, Upside Down" Jack Johnson

Isaac "American Pie" Don McLean

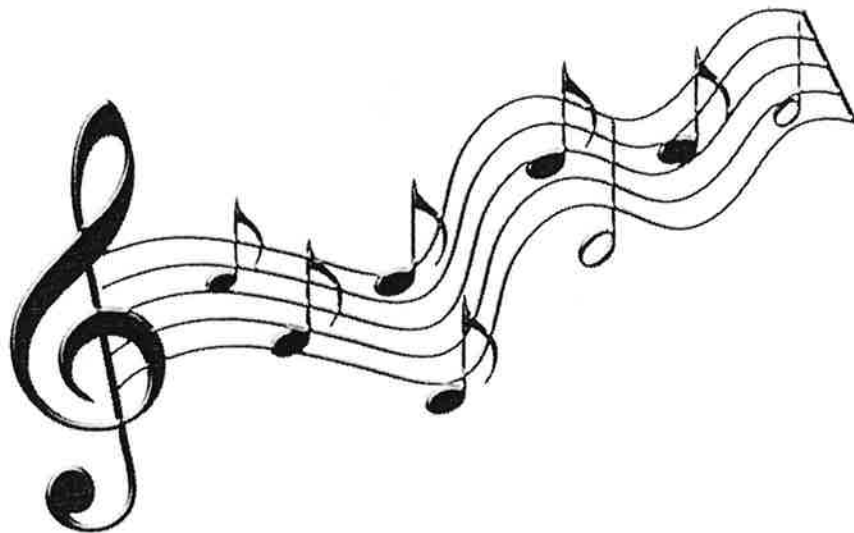
Elise "Dancing Queen" Abba

Ryen "Hooked on a Feeling" Blue Swede

Koby "Just the Two of Us" Grover Washington Jr.

Kaden "Careless Whisper" George Michael

Mrs. Rick "The Luckiest" Ben Folds



# *Senior profile*

Name: Dulce Laínez

Birthday: September 26, 2001

Age: 19

Favorite Color: Every color ever discovered.

Favorite TV series: Locke and Key, The Haunting of Bly Manor, The Haunting of Hill House, That 70's Show, etc.

Life phrase: "You have to die a few times before you can really live."

-Charles Bukowski

After Graduation: I'm going to work for a year before going to college. After a year, I plan to go to college and become a doctor.



Senior Profile for

# Isaac Nelson



Favorite Movie: *Finding Nemo*

Favorite Videogame: *Hollow Knight*

Hobbies: Art, Game design, Writing

Favorite Cnidarian: Sea Anemone

Favorite Arthropod: Ants

Favorite Color: IDK Color is Color.

Favorite Mammilla: Cat

Favorite Bird: Peregrine Falcon

Favorite Quote: "You can please some of the people all the time and all of the people some of the time, but you cannot please all the people all the time."

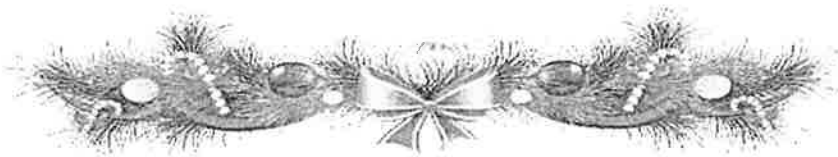
Abraham Lincoln



## How Building a Computer Was One of the Best Things I Have Ever Done

By: Tanner Stevens

People always think building a computer is this gargantuan task and how you must be smart to do it and yadda yadda. First off, that is not true at all because if it were, building computers would not be nearly as popular as it is. Secondly, the hardest part about building a computer nowadays is being able to afford it. This recently got a lot harder due to the recent pandemic as the prices for almost every single part you need has almost doubled and has in some cases tripled which has made it nearly impossible to get a decent deal for your parts. I got lucky and built it right before the pandemic hit. Building my computer was as simple as spending about two hours plugging stuff into my motherboard, which is what makes the computer function. Then, I made sure all the connectors were in the right place so that it did not blow up when I finally turned it on. Finding what wire went where took me a good 45 minutes. The rest of that time building it was spent talking to people who had built computers more than I had and making sure I had all my ducks in a row. In the end, the whole thing worked out perfectly and it turned on properly right away. I got Windows installed on it without a hitch and there were absolutely no problems. To this day has not given me too many headaches.



### **What's your favorite Christmas movie?**

Ryen - *Santa Clause 1-3* The Tim Allen ones

Koby - The live action *Grinch*

Alex - *Die Hard*

Tanner - I'm Not a movies guy

Elise - *The Nightmare Before Christmas*

Cielo - The live action **Grinch** Movie

Isaac - *It's a Wonderful Life*

Kaden - *The Wizard of Oz*



### **What is your favorite thing about Christmas?**

Ryen - Spending time with family

Koby - Not doing anything for 2 weeks

Alex - Being together with family

Tanner - The potential for free things

Elise - I don't like Christmas

Cielo - Food

Isacc - Getting far, far away from here

Kaden - Listening to spooky music

### **What's your favorite Christmas treat**

Ryen - lefsa

Koby - All Christmas cookies

Alex - lefsa

Tanner - lefsa

Elise - caramel

Cielo - I don't know

Isaac - Hot coco

Kaden - Knoephla soup



# *The Night Before Finals*

T'was the night before finals and all through the school,

The seniors are panicking and losing their cool.

Filled with doom for the seniors they knew,

In twenty-four hours their research papers were due.

The juniors and sophomores, not even stressed,

With easy finals they had all been blessed.

Ms. Helwig was giving us FAFSA and apps,

For when you are a senior, no time for naps.

The masks on our heads, we want them removed,

Very annoying they have often proved.

There goes Isaac, he left the room,

Then down the hallway, he will soon zoom.

We leave this year, with just one query,

Would you like a Sprite Cranberry?

The End.