



THE PAW PRINT

Western Middle School



Russiaville, IN



RUSSIAVILLE YOUTH BASEBALL LEAGUE

Opening Day Parade THIS Saturday at 9 a.m.!



By Jackson McKillip, Mason Morgan, and Tate Heston

RYBL stands for Russiaville Youth Baseball League and includes the Russiaville baseball teams, like Stout & Son, Burger King, Martin Brothers, Waddell's, Hollingsworth Lumber, and Lions Club. All of these teams are from major league of Russiaville Baseball. RGSL stands for Russiaville Girls Softball League. Each year these organizations have a parade on opening day. Each team has to make their own float to ride in while the players throw candy in the streets to the crowds. The Western High School band marches, and Fire Department trucks drive in the parade. When all the teams are done with throwing candy on their route, they go on to the major league field to throw the first pitch and draw the names for the raffle ticket contest. Each team plays at least ten teams and plays at least ten games in a season.

The newest thing is the Home Run Target out in center outside the RYBL 12U fence. If you hit the target by hitting a home run, then you get a free meal. At the end of the baseball season, we play a Russiaville teams only tournament. There are many students at WMS who play for RYBL and RGSL. Each year it is exciting and fun to play for a Russiaville team. You should try it!

Meet the New Paw Print Staff



We welcome the following members to this term's Paw Print staff: (backrow, from left to right) Gage Engle, Mason Morgan, Teagan Obenchain, Tate Heston, Paiten Bell, and Emily Smith; (front row, from left to right) Jackson McKillip and Paul Lowery.



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Student Spotlight: Kelsey Bartley



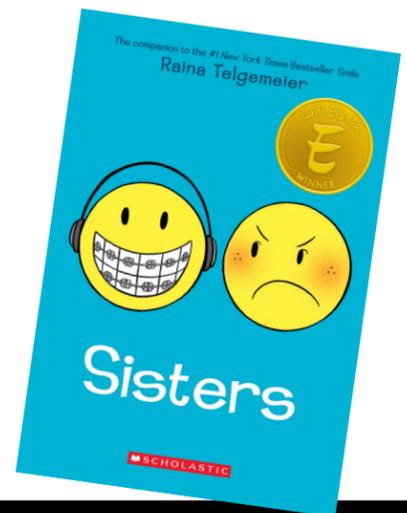
By Paiten Bell

I picked Kelsey Bartley for Student Spotlight because she is a very nice person. She is on the track and volleyball team for Western. In volleyball she plays court inside. For track, she does hurdles.

When she is not doing sports, she likes to hang out with her aunt or with her friends. Her favorite book is *Sisters*. Her favorite subject is science.

Kelsey was also a part of the first *Paw Print* staff. She is the one who came up with the DGU paw print. I asked her how she came up with DGU and she said she just asked herself what would be a good small letter thing to explain that we should never give up. So, she put, "Don't give up," to always raise people's spirits and to never stop.

Did you know that Kelsey's picture is IN the paw print itself? Look closely below!



The DGU Paw Print is back! Look for it in the Paper Each Week!

DGU stands for "Don't Give Up", and it is a special paw print in the paper! Search for the paw print, find it, and get a reward! When you find the paw print, take a picture and email it to Mrs. Sipes at lsipes@western.k12.in.us. The first person in 6-8th grade to find it and send it in will win a gift card. **Note:** the sample to right does not count!

Even the staff can earn a reward for being the first staff member to find the paw print. Get your glasses on and search for it!



This Week's Top Students

8th Grade: Eliza Lutgen
Abigail Origer
Michaela Irwin

7th Grade: Natalie Nutt
Chioma Ozoigbo
Kaesha Smith

6th Grade: Logan Nelson
Ethan Fisher
Braylee Acord

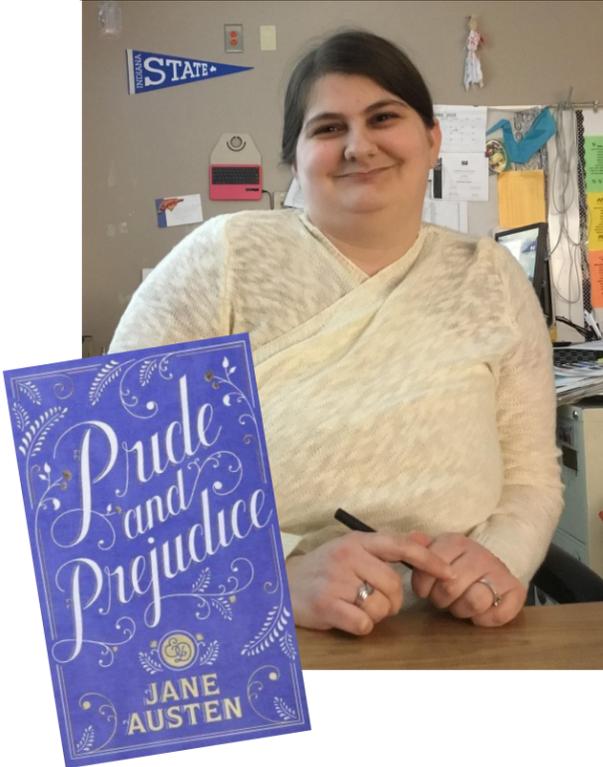


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Student Teacher Feature: Mrs. Henshaw



By Paul Lowery

This week I did the Teacher Feature portion of this paper, and I followed the dreams of an amazing student teacher. Over an interview, I found that she is interested in the book *Pride and Prejudice*. Although she can't pick favorites, she can see a spark in children. Her favorite thing to teach is grammar. Also, her favorite color is red.

According to her, she liked the interview as much as I did getting to write this story. She is an amazing student teacher here at Western Middle School. It is an honor to have her in the Explorer hallway. Sadly, as a student teacher she has to leave us and move on to her professional career. We Explorers were happy she came to WMS, and that she represented what being a panther really means.

Rave for Riley: Glow for a Good Cause

By Emily Smith

Do you want to help a child in need? On May 18th, you can! Well, only if you come to the "Rave for Riley: Glow for a Good Cause" fundraiser! The best part about the fundraiser is that you can help a child in need and have tons of fun doing it!

The 7th Period classes of Mrs. Lee and Mrs. Sipes are hosting this because they wanted to help out our community. There will be separate stations at the event where you can play games and participate in events as well. Some of these stations include: Glow Ring Toss, Glow Jump Rope, a Blacklight Escape Room, and many others! Also, some items you can buy include: Glow Sticks, Glow Bracelets, Electric Lemonade, and items from the Bake Sale! This event will take place on the High School Track from 8:30-9:30 pm.

Also, did you know that May 18th is also when something else happens? That something is Youth Service Day! May 18th was designated as Youth Service Day last year at WMS for Mrs. Lee and Mrs. Sipes' classes. It was decided by the Mayor of Kokomo, Greg Goodnight.

Support Riley Hospital! Glow for a Good Cause and Rave for Riley on May 18th, and help to raise the enormous goal of \$1,500 for Riley Hospital! All of the money that is raised will be donated to Riley Hospital.



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RYBL Season Begins: Many Updates to Ballpark



Friendly faces are always ready to serve you at the Russiaville concession stand, especially the softball girls!

In addition to a new press box last year, the park has added bleachers, created a welcome focal point, landscaped by Salsberry Landscaping, and the RYBL 12U field has undergone a transformation to the new Advanced Play 50-70. [Click HERE to learn more.](#)

According to RYBL.ORG, the reason for converting to 50'/70' field is:

“When players progress to the next level of play at age 13, they jump to a full-sized infield, which is 60 feet 6 inches from the pitching rubber to home plate and 90 feet between bases. From 46/60, this is quite a transition all at once. 50/70 provides a transitional distance for players to progress more gradually. We feel kids who play 50/70 will be physically better prepared for the next level of baseball as well as better prepared in terms of baserunning, rules, and fundamentals of the full game of baseball.”



Volunteers help with park beautification and maintenance during one of two field days that have been scheduled each year to help prepare for the upcoming season.



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Who Is It??



This is a picture of one of the teachers in the middle school building. Can you guess who it is?

Look for a baby picture of a teacher in each issue of *The Paw Print* this year. Your job is to guess which teacher it is each time.

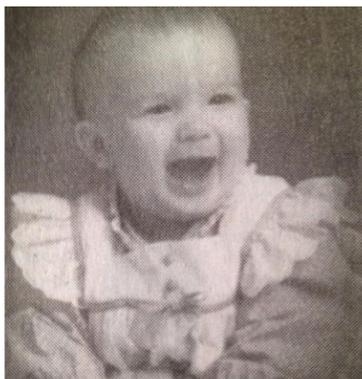
If you think you know, stop by Mrs. Sipes' room (601) during passing period. The first person with the correct answer claims the reward!

Previous Baby Pictures: How Many Have You Guessed?

Issue 8: Mr. Abston
Spanish and
World Languages



Issue 9: Mrs. Lee
6th Grade Social
Studies



Issue 10:
Mrs. Coulson
7th Grade Science



Issue 11:
Mrs. Burkett
MS/HS Art



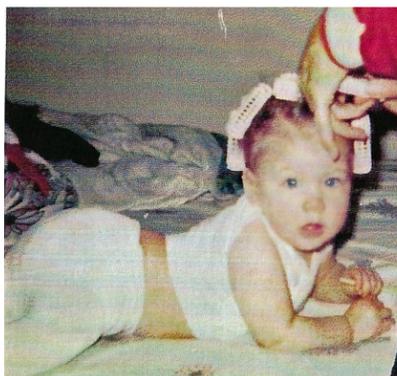
Issue 12:
Mr. Spangler
7th Grade
Social Studies



Issue 13:
Mr. Miller
6th Grade Math



Issue 14:
Mrs. Turner



Issue 16:
Mrs. Evans
6th grade



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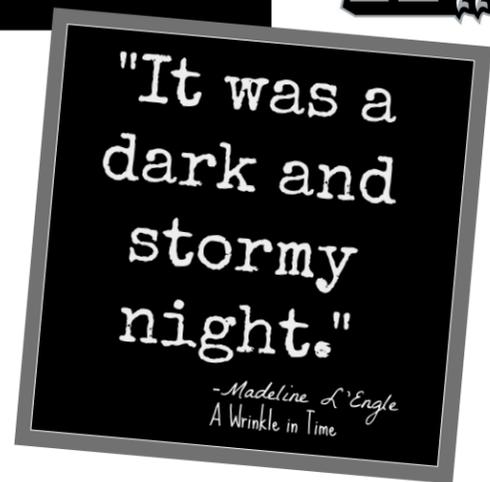
Books and Movies



A WRINKLE IN TIME

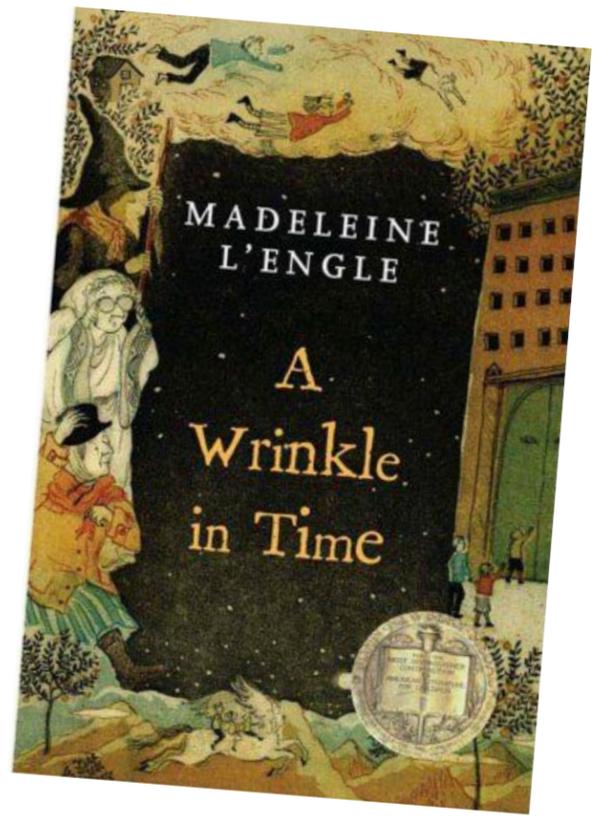
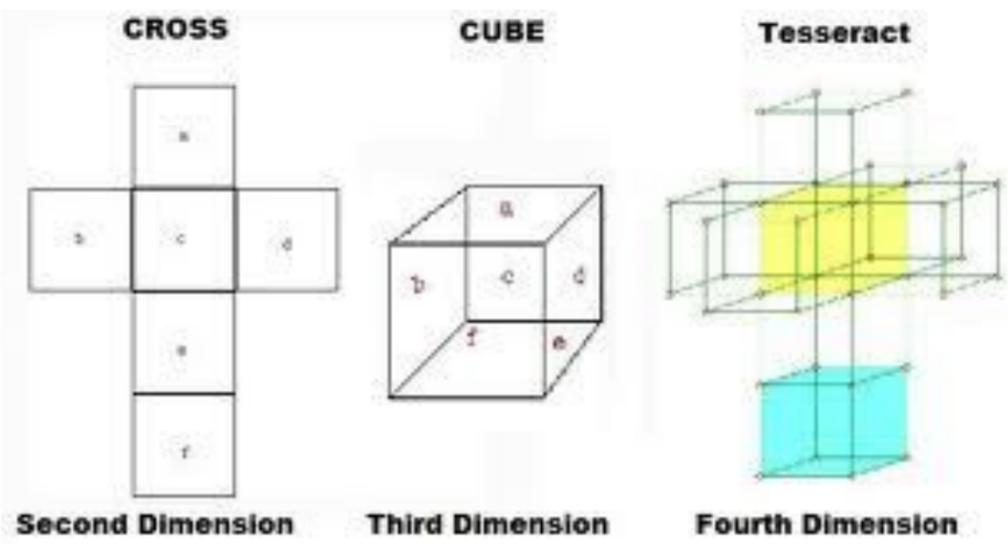
By Emily Smith

Have you seen the movie *A Wrinkle in Time*? Well, did you know that it was book first? The book was originally available to people in the year 1962. It is an older book, but despite that, it was still phenomenal! The book is also a part of a series of books, so the whole story isn't told in one book. I still haven't watched the movie yet, but the book was so outstanding I want to see the movie even more!



The main character in the book *A Wrinkle in Time* is Margaret Murray, however, everyone calls her Meg. She is a girl who considers herself as someone who always does things wrong, a delinquent, not smart, and stubborn. In truth, Meg is actually quite brilliant and has a heart of gold! Meg, her brother Charles Wallace, and their new friend Calvin go on an adventure together to save Earth and find their dad. An overpowering force called 'The Black Thing' is threatening Earth and it's up to Meg and her team to save Earth! Thankfully, they don't have to somehow manage it on their own. They will get some help along the way from Mrs. Who, Mrs. Whatsit, Mrs. Which, Aunt Beast, and The Happy Medium! They travel through time and space, or 'tessering' as the book calls it, to face true evil, IT.

https://books.google.com/books/about/A_Wrinkle_in_Time.html?id=r119-dYq0mwC&printsec=frontcover&source=kp_read_button



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The Sports Section



By Gage Engle and Mason Morgan

If you have an interest in the NFL, this article is for you. First, we are going to talk about the top prospects going into the NFL. Some of the top prospects going into the the NFL are Saquon Barkley, Sam Darnold, Bradley Chubb, Josh Allen, and Baker Mayfield. Saquon Barkley had 21 touchdowns and 1903 yards his junior year. Sam Darnold had 26 touchdowns and 4143 yards in his junior year. Bradley Chubb had 72 tackles in his senior year. Josh Allen had 16 touchdowns and 1812 yards in his junior year. Finally, Baker Mayfield had 43 touchdowns and 4627 yards in his senior year.

Now, we are going to talk about the releases that have happened lately. DeMarco Murray was released from the Tennessee Titans in March. Richard Sherman was also released in March after 7 seasons by the Seattle Seahawks. Adrian Peterson, one of the best running backs to play the game, was released by the Arizona Cardinals in March. Marshawn Lynch was also released in March by the Las Vegas Raiders. Finally, Dez Bryant was released by the Dallas, Cowboys on April 13.

- <https://www.sports-reference.com/cfb/players/baker-mayfield-1.html>
- <https://www.sports-reference.com/cfb/players/bradley-chubb-1.html>
- <https://www.sports-reference.com/cfb/players/josh-allen-7.html>
- <https://www.sports-reference.com/cfb/players/sam-darnold-1.html>
- <https://www.sports-reference.com/cfb/players/saquon-barkley-1.html>



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The Sports Section: MLB & NBA



CLEVELAND INDIANS

By Gage Engle and Tate Heston

The Cleveland Indians are currently the second best team in the AL Central conference. Some of the best players on that team are (SS), Francisco Lindor, (2B), Jason Kipnis, (P), Corey Kluber, (1B,DH), Edwin Encarnación. Francisco Lindor has 63 AB, 2 HR, 7 RBI, 3 SB, and a batting average of .238. Jason Kipnis has 66 AB, 0 HR, 4RBI, 0 SB, and a batting average of .167. Corey Kluber has 33 strikeouts, 29.2 IP, and a 1.52 ERA. Edwin Encarnación has 59 AB, 4 HR, 5 RBI, 0 SB, and his batting average is .153.

NBA PLAYOFFS

By Mason Morgan, Jackson McKillip, and Gage Engle

The 2018 NBA playoffs started on Saturday, April 14. The Celtics took the lead by winning the first game and the second game against the Bucks; they are 2-0. The Pacers won the first game against the Cavs and then the Cavs won the second game. Pacers and Cavs are tied 1-1. OKC won against the Jazz and Jazz won the second. OKC and Jazz are tied 1-1. The Warriors won against the Spurs for the first two games, and the Warriors are now 2-0. The 76ers won against the Heat, and then the Heat won the second game. They are tied in the series, 1-1. The Raptors won against the Wizards in the first two games, and so the Raptors are 2-0. The Rockets won the first two games against the Timberwolves, and so the Rockets are 2-0. The Pelicans won against the Trail Blazers for the first two games, so the Pelicans are 2-0.

The number one team in the Eastern Conference is the Raptors and the number one team in the Western Conference is the Rockets. The Rockets have the best regular season record in the NBA right now. The 2018 NBA Playoffs and Championship will end on June 17. The NBA Playoffs and Championship runs from April 14 to June 17. Both conferences finals will take place on May 15 and May 16 and will continue through May 29. The NBA Championship of 2018 will occur May 31 through June 17, if it lasts all seven games. Last year's NBA Champs were the Golden State Warriors, and they won in game four of the NBA championship against the Cavaliers.



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Around the Town...and the State



BEAUTIFICATION OF KOKOMO

By Teagan Obenchain

I think what Mayor Goodknight has been doing is wonderful. He has fixed a lot of the roads in Kokomo. He has been replanting trees and flower bushes all over. I think that all the things he has done have been beautiful. He has been working very hard on making Kokomo greater than it already is. He has also been balancing out the money perfectly, with not too much money going to beautifying Kokomo, but just enough. This is perfect so that we can fix all the potholes. He has even fixed some of the parking lots in random gas stations or depots that need it. What Mayor Goodknight has been doing is amazing in my opinion.

http://www.cityofkokomo.org/document_center/Kokomo_Comprehensive_Plan.pdf
<http://www.greaterkokomo.com/img/Kokomo%20Beautiful%20Header.jpg>



THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ISTEP+ AND ILEARN

By Paiten Bell

There are some differences between ISTEP+ and the upcoming new test, ILEARN. The major difference that the teachers seem most excited is how quickly you get the results with the new test. With ISTEP+ you don't get the results very quickly. You normally get them just after school ends or in the middle of the summer. With ILEARN, we will most likely receive them more quickly. Another major change is that the test is taken at one time. With ISTEP+, there are a couple times you need to take it during the year.



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Paw-fect Games and Puzzles



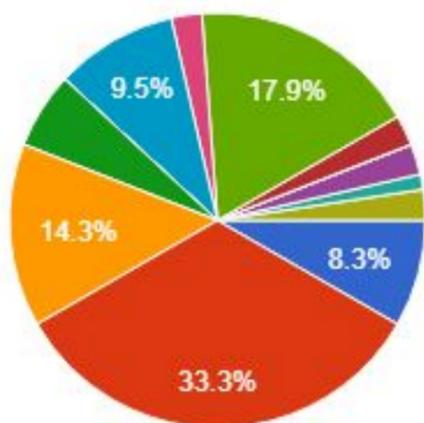
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DO YOU SUDOKU?

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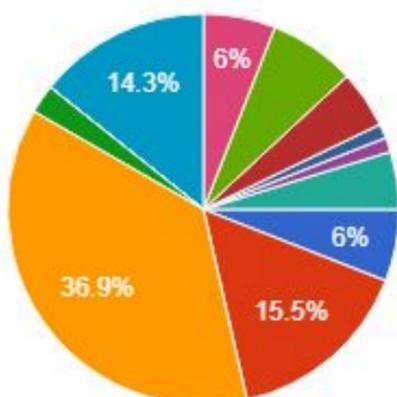
Previous Poll Responses from March:

WHICH IS YOUR FAVORITE DR. SEUSS BOOK?



- One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue...
 - Green Eggs and Ham
 - How the Grinch Stole Christmas
 - Horton Hears a Who
 - Horton Hatches the Egg
 - The Cat in the Hat
 - The Sneetches
 - The Lorax
 - And to Think That I Saw It On Mulberry Street
 - Bartholomew and the Oobleck
 - The 500 Hats of Bartholomew Cubbins
 - Yertle the Turtle
 - The Cat in the Hat Comes Back
- ▲ 1/2 ▼ ▲ 2/2 ▼

WHICH IS YOUR FAVORITE T.V. SHOW?



- Arrow
 - The Flash
 - Stranger Things
 - Gotham
 - The Tomorrow People
 - Spongebob Squarepants
 - The Simpsons
 - The Walking Dead
 - Seinfeld
 - Game of Thrones
 - Supernatural
 - Friends
- ▲ 1/2 ▼ ▲ 2/2 ▼



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The Paw Print Poll



#1: WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE IPADS OR LAPTOPS AT SCHOOL?



VS.



[Vote for your preference HERE!](#)

#2: WHICH TEAMS DO YOU WANT TO SEE IN THE NBA PLAYOFFS?

- Cleveland Cavaliers
- Boston Celtics
- Indiana Pacers
- Golden State Warriors
- Houston Rockets
- San Antonio Spurs
- Toronto Raptors
- Washington Wizards
- Philadelphia 76ers
- Miami Heat
- Milwaukee Bucks
- Utah Jazz
- Minnesota Timberwolves
- New Orleans Pelicans
- Portland Trail Blazers
- Oklahoma City Thunder

[Vote for you top 3 picks HERE!](#)



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