

THE BARCLAY SCHOOL CHRONICLE



December 2016

Special Beans Coffee

by Ronan

While attending a meeting at the Barclay School, my dad got an idea on how to raise money for the school. My dad roasts his own coffee beans. He buys beans that are from different countries like Colombia and Guatemala. Normally, he just roasts for us at home or for Christmas gifts. The biggest roast he has ever made was last Christmas, and we sold it as a fundraiser at my church. This year, we are doing it here. We are going to teach the children how to roast coffee, so that they can make it themselves.

We are selling the coffee for \$5.00 per bag—this one bag makes twelve cups of coffee. For a gift package with four different coffees, it costs \$20.00. Tom Hall has already ordered 300 bags! I hope Special Beans goes well because it would be a great hands-on fundraiser.



Christmas Cards

by Amy

Last week, Donna, Piper, and I gathered all the Christmas cards and drove to the Fairfield Council on Aging. They work with the elderly folks and asked us to make Christmas cards to go with the presents which will be given to them. Martha, one of the people who works with the old folks, was so happy when we gave her the bag of cards. We told her how we made them and had fun doing it. She let us go upstairs to see the Angel Tree. The tree was decorated with ornaments and light green paper shaped angels. Each one had the old folks' names and allergies. After that, we said goodbye and rode back to school.

A Trip to the Museum

by Wil

We went to the museum. We saw a movie. It was dark when we watched the movie. At the museum, I saw a dinosaur. I saw a train and trucks. I saw stars and people in the movie. At the museum, I saw a shark. A big big shark! I saw a sun.



Chuck's Detecting

by Joseph S.

A few days ago, one of Tom's friends, Chuck Smith, came to the school with his metal detector to look for some old things that may have been dropped by soldiers during the Civil War. The first thing we did was we sat in the big room and talked about different metals and things you could find out at Magnolia. Some of the things you can find would be buttons, coins, and if you're lucky maybe a slave tag. After talking in the big room, we went outside and watched him find the different signals. Once he found a strong enough signal, he would use a smaller metal detector to pinpoint where it was, and he dug it up. The first thing we found was a penny that was cut in half. The last thing we found was the back of a button. After that, Chuck went off on his own in the woods.

He found a lady's powder compact which was from 1920. He also found a handle of a spoon that he thinks is from the 1800s. The thing he was most excited about was a brass coin from King George III during the 1700s. Thank you, Chuck Smith, for coming. I can't wait for you to come back with your friends and do some more metal detecting in the new year.

Leaves Collection

by Brandon P.

Leaves are very important. They change colors like yellow, orange, green, and red. Some leaves fall in the winter. Leaves are also for animals to eat. Some of the leaves that can give you vitality are called herbs. There are different types of leaves, like a pine tree. Pine trees have no leaves, but they have pine needles.

We went on a walk to collect leaves. We know the different shapes of the leaves. When it is cold and the wind is blowing, the leaves will fall. Through the winter, all leaves will die. Some trees grow white flowers that smell throughout spring. Some leaves can give you rashes and blisters like the poison ivy. Leaves can also be for planting.

Donna's Church

by Hillary & Joe

On Friday, the big kids took a trip to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church which is where one of our volunteers, Donna, attends church. The church was built in 1854—making it 173 years old, still standing with all of the original walls, flooring, and pews. Three families built the church. One built

the building, and two gave the land for the church. The church is set on twelve acres of land. There is only one original old glass window at the front of the church. The baptismal font was donated to the church from New York, one hundred years ago. The chalice was part of a kit that Bob Eldrige, the church priest, used to take communion when he served in Iraq. Colonel John Peyre Thomas who owned Magnolia is buried in the graveyard at the church. With all of the information we have, we are going to make a pamphlet for the kids to attend the church.

My Birthday by Desmond

My birthday is on Christmas Day. I don't want any presents for my birthday. It's my brother Brandon's birthday on Christmas. My brother wants an Xbox for Christmas. Christmas is not my cup of tea. I'd rather celebrate Saint Patrick's Day.

The Gem & Mineral Show by Jacob

On Friday, the school went to the Gem and Mineral Show thanks to Mr. Don who gave us tickets for the show. I bought a necklace and some malachite. I had fun and met some nice people. Kate and her mom were there too. Kate volunteers at the school.

Kate and her mom cut geos for the show every year. Inside the building, there was a big table full of salt rock lamps, cut rocks, and gemstones. The Gem and Mineral Show is a good place to come and spend money. I can't wait to go next time.

Barclay's First Calendar by J.J.

The Barclay School finally got our own calendar. Instead of only having to use the boring regular school ones that you get from public school, these calendars have our own pictures that the teachers took at school and other places, like karate. Along with pictures are some funny quotes from Barclay students. We are also selling our calendars for \$10 per calendar for families of the Barclay students. The pictures show you the activities we do during the week such as yoga, karate, pottery, and more.



Hope & Mom's Big Day by Hope

I got my teeth cleaned at the dentist. He brushed my teeth. He flossed my teeth. The toothpaste tasted like blueberries. I got a bag with a toothbrush and toys. I got cleaned up and got a tickle. I was laughing! It was so silly.

Then, I went to Target with Mom and got medicine. I got some fruit punch and a pretzel. We got food for Blackjack, the cat.

We got food supplies for Buns, the bunny, and carrots for Christmas day!

Then we went to PetSmart and saw doggies. We saw fish, bearded dragons, snakes, cats, gerbils, hamsters, birds, and guinea pigs. It was an exciting day!

Joseph Decorates a Tree

by Joseph

Miss Bonnie has a Christmas tree. I helped put ornaments on the tree. We listened to Christmas music while we put ornaments on the tree. I wore red reindeer antlers. I sang the song, "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer."

Christmas Holiday

by Sara

I am excited about Christmas because it is fun opening presents. I like the candy because it is sweet. I love to watch Rudolph movies. I like singing Christmas music.

We Sang at the Nursing Home

by Ethan

I love to sing at the nursing home with my friends. It was fun to sing for the old people. We sang "Jingle Bells" and "Santa Clause is Coming to Town." We wore reindeer antlers on our heads. The people felt good when we came. I felt good because they needed some cheer.



A Trip to the Museum

by Dominic

We went to the museum. I like to walk on the train. I like to look at the animals. I like the dinosaurs. I like to dig up dinosaur bones. Hopey found a tooth. We watched a movie. It was about telescopes. I like the big telescope. It was really huge!

The School's Calendar

by Phillip

For next year, the Barclay School made a calendar. All photos were taken at the Barclay School for the 2017 calendar. Each photo is taken with help from Bonnie with the camera and Boyce for the layout. The calendars were made as gifts for people that have helped the school and as a fundraiser for whoever wants one.

Most of the kids liked to be in all of the photos. One photo was taken in front of the new school bus. All the students loved it. People got in the bus as soon as they saw it.

The calendar is selling so fast that the school needs 50 more calendars. Most people like the calendars, and I'm sure you will too.

Nature Walk

by Brandon M.

A few weeks ago, we went on a nature walk. On the walk, we saw bugs, mammals, plants, and birds. We also saw spiders, flowers, trees, mushrooms, and many more interesting organisms. We walked to a small cabin in the woods. We saw some acorns on the ground. Acorns can be planted in the ground; and when they are, they grow into oak trees. Mushrooms aren't just plants, they're also fungi.

We went on a nature walk because it was a beautiful day to learn about different organisms, and it was good exercise. There were some very long branches that looked like whiplashes. Some of the leaves were green, some were yellow, red, orange, and brown. That was because it was fall.

Nature walks are fun because you can find and see animals, plants, and anything else you find in nature.



Museum

by Gianni

On Monday, my school went to the State Museum. They had old cars, sharks, and a U.S. Army carrier. There were mini movies at the museum. The mini movie was to tell you facts. There was an old train that you could go in. There was a map that tells you where to find things. At the museum, there was a big room that you go in that showed stars. It was called a planetarium. After the show, everyone liked it a lot. Then, all of the kids had their photo taken. The State Museum was so awesome.

The Christmas Cards

by Piper

One day at the Barclay School, my class decided to make Christmas cards for the elderly. My teacher decided to make my class do an assembly line to help make the cards faster to make. We had to make forty or more Christmas cards to give to the elderly. When my class and I got started making the cards, my teacher and Ms. Donna Guess got me to do the part where I wrote, "Merry Christmas" in the cards. Naomi was making the stamps. Phillip was making the trees. Brandon M. was making the ornaments. Alyx was putting drops of glue on for the ornaments.

Amy was putting the ornaments on the drops of glue that Alyx had put on the trees that were on the cover of the cards. Nate and Brandon P. were making the stars that went on the tip top of the trees that were on the cards. My class and I made three different types of cards. One type had a Santa Clause face on the front of the cards. Another type had plain Christmas trees, and the third type had a Christmas tree cover with ornaments

and had the gold star on the top of the trees. We ended up with forty-five Christmas cards, and they were awesome. My class and I had a great time making them. I hope we do it again next year.



How to Grow Science Crystals

by Alyx

Last Wednesday, our science class learned how to make rock crystals out of clear borax, dark purple Epsom salt, normal salt, and hot water. I learned that a crystal is a type of rock, and it's also a mineral. If you mix borax, it can make your crystal's rock shiny. Everyone's rock was a different color. We used blue, purple, and yellow dye. Some people took their crystal rocks home with them. All of the crystals were different. Some were thicker than others. Some were smaller, and some also had less crystals than others. Everyone had a great time during the science project. It was very entertaining and fun. I learned so much. I can't wait until we do more science lessons with rocks.

Special Visitor to Barclay

by Nate

One day at the Barclay School, a man named Chuck Smith came to the school with a metal detector. He said he came here to see if he could find some artifacts from different time periods. We said, "Yes!" because we'd love to see some artifacts from the different time periods.

After snack, Chuck showed us a demonstration by using a silver coin on a chain that he had found. He put the coin under his detector. It beeped. We all said, "Wow!" Then, we all went out the door. We all thought to ourselves, "We hope we find diamonds!" All we found was a part of a penny. We said, "Aw. . .!" We found an old piece of metal that looked like half of a train track, another piece of metal, and a handmade piece of brick. After that, we went inside. Chuck said he'd found a couple more items at the school. Chuck said he'd found an old coin, a lady's compact, and a part of a silver spoon. When Chuck comes back, I'm looking forward to searching for more artifacts with him! We had a great time!



The School Goes to the Nursing Home and Sings

by Naomi

We have been going to the nursing home. When we get there, we go all the way down the hall to the big room, and we play games and color with the residents. Last time we went trick or treating, and we gave them little treats. We were in our costumes. We brought things to them. Yesterday, we went Christmas caroling, and that was our music with Mr. Alan. We have been having music every week. We play cool instruments like drums, bass drums, and bells. I like Mr. Alan a lot. When he comes in, he always sings, "Yes, Indeed." When he leaves, he always sings, "Farewell." All of the people enjoyed it. I'm glad we went.



J.J.'s Brilliant Idea

by Hillary

On Wednesdays and Thursdays at the Barclay School, we do science with Dave and Mary. We had been working on this one project for a few weeks about trees. The day came to present them to the little kids. We were all a bit anxious about presenting in front of everyone, until J.J. had the brilliant idea of turning it into a science fair. I think doing it that way made the projects more impactful, and the little kids were super pumped to be involved and to see what we had done. We challenged the little kids to do a presentation for the big kids to enjoy.

Announcements

1. School closes for Christmas Break at noon on Tuesday, December 20, 2016. See you back at school at 9 AM on Tuesday, January 3, 2017.
2. Please help us with our fundraisers! Barclay Town books cost \$10.00 each. 2017 Barclay calendars cost \$10.00 each. Hand-roasted coffee beans are \$5.00 for a delicious 12-cup pot, or \$20.00 for a gift package of four different beans. Great gifts!
3. Come to the school on Thursday, December 29, 2016 from 3 PM to 5:30 PM to sign up for our first Food Share. \$20 cash or \$10 on your EBT card will get you \$50 worth of seasonal veggies and fruit!