

## **Blue Ridge Elementary**

The 2021-2022 school year was a year of flexibility and rebuilding. Staff and students re-learned how to be in school full time, made emotional and academic connections, and regained a sense of normalcy- all while maintaining the Blue Jay spirit! True to form the students and staff marked this year with some pretty groovy celebrations and successes! We did it!

**First, But Not Last:** The fourth grade students marked the first, but not last field trip of the year by going on their "Walk Around Raytown" community discovery field trip. Students visited the Raytown Fire Department, The Raytown Historical Society, The Rice-Tremonti Farm Home, and finally had a delicious frosty at the local Wendy's! Students interacted with the community members and were super respectful and well-behaved. They made sure to show our community the Raytown Quality Schools way to behave!

**Student Spotlight:** Fourth quarter is all about the 5th grade students and the legacy they leave behind. Each student in the 5th grade selected a quote that represented our four vision words: **BELIEVE, GROW, LEAD**, and **INSPIRE** to be read aloud on the morning announcements. They wanted younger students to benefit from the wisdom of their experience. Oh the psyche of a 5th grade student!

**Hunger Games Success:** The giving back experience is alive and well at Blue Ridge. Blue Jay students and their teachers had a battle like never before collecting canned goods and other non-perishables for REAP this quarter. It was a fight till the end as classes batted it out for the class pizza award. It's amazing how motivating a class pizza party can be.

**ABC Countdown:** The Blue Ridge promotions team kept staff and students engaged and excited to be at school this last month with an amazing and creative countdown to the last day! The days included "Hawaiian Day" for letter H and Tye Dye Day for letter T. The first grade students used the science of color and the heat of the sun to make their own shirts at school. See the epic photo they took below.

**Fifth Grade Family Celebration:** Blue Ridge families and loved ones gathered in the gym to celebrate their promotion to the middle school. Each fifth grader was acknowledged by his or her teacher and given special recognition to acknowledge strengths and personality. Students received a t-shirt from PTA, a yearbook, and a water bottle with "Class of 2029" from Principal Phillips.





## **Eastwood Hills Elementary**

**Family Fun Nights:** We were happy to return to our Quarterly Family Fun Nights this year! The purpose of these events is simply to spend time together and build relationships as a school community. This Fall, Eastwood teachers and staff hosted our students and families for Trunk or Treat. We ended the school year with a party on the Eastwood playground. We played yard games, football, and the Kona Ice Truck sold sweet treats. They were both wonderful times of community fun!



**Battle of the Brains:** Four Eastwood Fifth graders were on the winning robotics team for the Burns & McDonnell Battle of the Brains competition. We are not surprised that our brilliant students earned this high honor!





**Eastwood Hills Courtyard Garden and Butterfly Waystation**: Every year, our fourth grade students help to plant and harvest vegetables from our four raised beds in the school courtyard. Did you know, Eastwood is also a monarch butterfly waystation? Come check us out!

**5th Grade Recognition Breakfast:** Approximately 150 people came to celebrate our Fifth Graders at the end of year Recognition Breakfast. We are so proud of our students and can't

wait to see all the amazing things they do at Raytown Middle School!!





## **Fleetridge Elementary**

2021-2022 has proven to be a year of Grit. Students and staff alike spent this school year working towards getting back to some sense of normalcy by returning to in person learning. It has been a year where our school community considered the possibilities so our students and staff worked hard to achieve it. Please enjoy <u>Our Year in Review</u> video. We have absolutely shown that we can do it!



**FR Clubs:** Fleetridge hosted several enrichment clubs for students this year. Our Gardening Club worked hard on projects to preserve nature and beautify our school. One of their projects was to build a raised garden bed for our planting projects. Take a look at the outcome. Not only do we have a raised garden bed we also have a bench to support outdoor learning.

- Hunger Games: Fleetridge participated in the annual RHS Hunger Games canned food drive that benefits REAP here in Raytown. Our FR Stars collected nearly 1,900 items toward the effort. The top three classes this year were Ms. Palmentere, Ms. Kilgore and Mrs. Storm. They each earned a pizza party from the RHS Stuco crew for their hard work!
- **Principal's Breakfast and Perfect Attendance:** Throughout this school year Fleetridge has prided itself in focusing on building character and acknowledging our students efforts for being present everyday. Each month students were selected from each classroom who displayed the character trait of the month. These students were celebrated with a donut breakfast with the principals, along with certificates and acknowledgment in the monthly school newsletter. This month was "Cleanliness". We also recognized our top 25 high achieving attendance students with two complimentary Royals ticket certificates.
- What a Week!: Fleetridge Stars wrapped up their school year with an amazing week filled with lots of fun. Day 1: We started our week with Fleetridge City where students enjoyed the opportunity to spend some well earned star bucks in our token economy. Day 2: We recognized our fifth graders moving on to middle school. Day 3: The rain did not stop us. We moved our Field Day to indoors and had a blast! A special thanks to Mr. Anselmi for putting this event together. Day 4: Fleetridge Stars showed off their talent in our school wide FR Talent Show. Day 5: Our students continued the tradition with the Fifth Gr. vs Staff kickball game. Staff took home the golden ball . Finally, we said goodbye to our Fifth graders as they took their final FR walk!





### **Laurel Hills Elementary**

• **21-22 Perseverance:** While many began August with hopes that 21-22 would be a return to a "normal" school year, we quickly realized this would not be the case. This year was, in many ways, the most challenging year of the pandemic. Teachers navigated unprecedented levels of student absence/quarantine, changing guidelines, and high social-emotional needs. In addition, Laurel Hills experienced a leadership change for 21-22, which causes additional new learning. Through it all, our staff persevered with love, compassion, and a desire to do what's best for kids.



- Hunger Games: Laurel Hills participated in the annual RHS Hunger Games canned food drive that benefits REAP here in Raytown. Our Leopard community collected more than 1,600 items toward the effort. The top three classes this year were Mr. Blankenship, Mrs. Lauby, and Mrs. Reser. They each earned a pizza party from the RHS Stuco crew for their hard work! Pictured here are three of our fifth graders dropping off items.
- **Career Day:** Laurel Hills was excited to host their first "normal" career day since COVID. Each classroom saw between 6-8 speakers, who represented a whole host of career paths. In all, we welcomed around 18 different speakers to our school. Many students reported it was the "best day ever".
- **5th Grade Recognition & Clap Out:** At the conclusion of the school year, we recognized the 5th grade cohort for their hard work and perseverance all through their elementary school days. Parents and families were welcomed to school for an awards ceremony where we recognized their hard work. We presented academic awards, character awards, along with a special recognition from Missouri House Representative Jerome Barnes.
- LH Fun Day: Our annual Fun Day was a bit wetter than usual, with showers in the afternoon causing us to pivot plans and adjust on the fly. Nevertheless, students had a very enjoyable time at Fun Day and participated in a variety of indoor and outdoor activities. Be sure to check out our photos on the Laurel Hills Facebook page!



## **Little Blue Elementary**

#### **Celebrations:**

- **Terrific Kids!** A student from each class was nominated by their classroom teacher for demonstrating the May Character Trait of being Grateful!
- **Girls on the Run!** Mrs. Bartz, Mrs. Maring, Miss Been, and some staff running buddies ran the Girls on the Run 5k at Swope park on May 21, 2022 alongside our 5th grade girls! It was a great way to end the weeks of the training and learning about understanding themselves, valuing relationships and teamwork and also recognizing how they can shape the world at large!
- Virtual Talent Show!- With Little Blue Elementary also being the home for all virtual students in the district, Mrs. Bartz and Miss Cassity put together a fantastic video highlighting the many talents of in-person and virtual students. There even was a Little Blue teachers and staff portion of the talent show where they showed off their dance moves to the song "The Wheels On The Bus".
- Hunger Games Food Drive!- The Little Blue students brought in close to 1,500 cans of food for the Raytown High School Hunger Games. Our Top 3 Classes were Ms. Criner's 3rd Grade class, Miss Pratt's 5th Grade class and Miss Bragaw's 3rd Grade class! The top three classes all received a pizza party! Items brought in were then sent REAP.
- **5th Grade Celebration!-** On the last day of school, 5th graders took part in the yearly 5th Grade vs Teachers kickball game as well as had a final parade through the halls of Little Blue. During the parade, 5th grade students gave upcoming 4th graders letters telling them what to expect when they return to school as 5th graders next year. Students who were here from Kindergarten to 5th grade also go to head to the gym and put their handprint on the wall.



#### Academic Focus:

• **Trauma Smart-** Little Blue Elementary teachers and staff completed their first year of Trauma Smart. Little Blue has had 10 two hour Trauma Smart sessions throughout the school year and also sent staff members to 2 different week long training sessions to become more trauma aware when interacting with our students and one another.





### **Norfleet Elementary**

**Farewell 5th Grade:** Norfleet held the end of year 5th grade Recognition ceremony and Fun Day field trip. The Recognition ceremony was held virtually so all could attend from both near and far - families, friends, and the school community. The students received their Recognition certificate, as well as, selected students received the Presidential gold or silver award given out for outstanding performance of proficient or beyond in academic testing, as well as great attendance. The annual staff versus fifth grade kickball match was a hit on the last day of school. The staff were triumphant again! Norfleet said farewell to our fifth graders on Fifth's Final Walk through the halls on the last day of school.

**Field Day:** Norfleet held their annual Field Day and it did not disappoint. It went down as the wettest Field Day in history. Students had a blast playing various games, such as ring toss, tug of war, and balancing races, all in the gentle mist. It was so much fun seeing the joy on the students' faces while outside! Once back inside, students watched a movie, had a picnic in the classroom, and enjoyed popsicles to finish off the day.

**Reading:** Norfleet made great gains in our reading proficiency this year. We began the year with 34% of our students scoring proficient and ended the year with 61.7% of our students reaching proficiency. Throughout the year, Norfleet really focused on small group instruction and teaching the necessary skills that were missing from the previous years of non-traditional learning. All of the staff worked very hard to advance students in their skills.

**Art Fair/Book Fair:** Norfleet was able to finally bring back their Art Fair & Book Fair for families to enjoy. We had a great turnout with beautiful artwork created by our students for the families to view. Students were also able to visit the Book Fair and purchase some great reading materials for the summer. Our terrific PTA was able to give many books and gift cards to students as Book Fair door prizes, which was a wonderful surprise for them.

**Garden Project:** Norfleet first and second grade classes partnered with the Kansas City Community Garden to plan and build three fruit and vegetable gardens. One was for strawberries, one was for slow growing plants (carrots, beets, snap peas), and the other was for fast growing plants (radishes, onions, lettuce, mustard greens). The students enjoyed this project and we look forward to our fall planting season!







#### **Robinson Elementary**

**Character Trait Breakfast:** Each month two students per classroom were selected for demonstrating our monthly character trait totaling over 150 students throughout the year . Robinson's students showed respect, responsibility, cooperation, perseverance, and gratitude through the 2021-2022 school year. These students got to enjoy a donut and juice breakfast with Mrs. Washington and Mrs. Williamson, along with a t-shirt to display their amazing work!

**Hunger Games-**Robinson participated in the Hunger Games as part of Raytown High School's Lead to Feed. Our Robinson community went above and beyond. We collected over 4000 items to donate to REAP. The outpouring of generosity was incredible. As a result of our Robinson team's efforts, everyone enjoyed a popcorn and juice party. Our top three classrooms were Mr. Davison, Ms. Way and Mrs. Converse. We were so proud of our efforts!

**Career Day:** Students got the opportunity to experience a full day of learning about different careers and interacting with volunteers through activities, games, and question/answer sessions. The careers included firefighters, cookie artist, police officers, mechanic, ceramic artist and more. The best part was that our own Raytown students from Herndon Career Center were here to showcase their work and share with our 3-5 students all the career opportunities they will have in the future. We can't wait to have this event again in the future with even more careers represented.

**Robinson Rockstars:** Our students have been busy this year working toward greatness and we have made sure to recognize those students who have shown amazing work and improvement in academic areas. One student per class gets the opportunity to be recognized each Monday on the intercom for being a Robinson Rockstar. Then, students go home with a personalized certificate with the reason for being a rockstar. Each student got to pick a square to add to our Robinson Rockstar board to help in revealing our mystery picture! Robinson Raccoons are Rockstars!

**Final Week:** What a great year we have had! Robinson celebrated all the amazing success by enjoying a week of fun. Coach Lantsberger put on an amazing field day, PBIS team threw an



Outdoor Odyssey party complete with popsicles and games, we said goodbye to our 5th graders with a Staff vs.Students kickball game. We sent these students off to middle school with a final walk through on the last day of school. We are thankful for a wonderful 2021-2022 school year!





### **Southwood Elementary**

**Celebrations:** The 2021-2022 school year started with a little uncertainty and turned into a year where all staff, parents and students strived to reach the stars and we did it.

**Assembly:** This year we had 4 quarterly celebrations. Each quarter we had over 85% of our students attend. Our last quarter we had 95% attendance which showed the overall improvement of students' earning and decreasing behaviors in our 4th quarter season. With our character traits we had students receive character t-shirts each quarter based on the quarter theme.

**Yearbook:** This was the first year Southwood had a yearbook club. The whole yearbook was designed, created, and all pictures were taken by students. The cover was designed by a student and they took much pride in their finished product.

**Core Club:** This year SW sponsored a Core Club which taught students to have service to others. They had a school wide campaign where they collected over 1,500 of donations to make care packages for the Ronald McDonald House.

**Marvelous May:** This final month was filled with activities. We had our annual career day sponsored by our counselor Eileen Fratzke. We had a wonderful field day which had a huge turn out of parent volunteers. This was sponsored by our Physical Education Teacher Mr. Jacobs. On field day the staff also played kickball against the 5th graders. The victory went to the staff. We also had SW city where



students were able to partake in fun activities by utilizing their beep beep bucks. We had a talent show where our Roadrunner talent shined. Talent is quite visible throughout Southwood.

**New Tradition:** Southwood created a Lifer wall. This wall will leave a personal stamp of all the students who attended Southwood from K-5th grade.

**Reading for Bikes:** 1st Grade partnered with Mr. Larry Alvis where students participated in a contest where they had to read several books. All Those who reached the goal number of books were entered into a drawing to win a free bike. 3 first graders went home with a brand new bike in which their parents came and presented it to them.

**5th Grade Recognition:** Our 5th grade recognition program was an in-person event which brought back some tradition not seen in the past 2 years. Parents were proud as their students were recognized for accomplishments with so many cheers.



**Goodbye:**This year the principal, April F. Sutherland is leaving after 3 years of representing Southwood Elementary. Goodbye videos were sent to <u>staff</u> and <u>parents</u>. Southwood had an awesome 21-22 School year.

## **Spring Valley Elementary**

- Art Show, Ice Cream Social & 4th grade Wax Museum: This event returned after a two year hiatus. Families were so excited to be in the building listening to their students portray various Famous Missourians, tour the building to view art created by K-5th graders, engage in some interactive art stations and finally enjoy some tasty ice cream with various toppings provided by our awesome PTA.
- Admin Chew & Chat for Compassion & Pride: In May, Mrs. Gabbert & Mrs. Kelley celebrated 68 students who modeled compassion and pride throughout the month toward peers and adults. Students enjoyed donuts and received a pencil and heard all the reasons why they were chosen by their teacher or peers.
- **PBIS Color Splash:** SV's 4th quarter behavior incentive was colorful in so many ways for our students. Students enjoyed celebrating their safe, respectful and responsible behavior with tons of outdoor colorful fun. They created mosaics on the playground with chalk paint art and spray painting designs on paper murals, created their own colorful sno cones to eat, played Human Hungry Hippo & Sponge Darts and finally enjoyed face painting.
- **Perfect Attendance:** Our PTA & Sacred Assembly Church helped us honor four students who had perfect attendance for the 2021-22 school year. These students were pleasantly surprised to learn they won a brand new bicycle for being at school 100% of the time all year.
- **Kindergarten Celebration:** Our Kindergarten celebration was in person for families again this year. Students enjoyed singing three songs and showing off their skills with various instruments. Our kindergarten teachers created a video where students told what they wanted to be in the future which brought many laughs and awwws.
- Farewell to 5th Grade: Our 5th grade celebration was once again in person and our families, staff and students could not have been happier. Several students also spoke to the audience and their peers about their favorite memories of Spring Valley. Students received a Class of 2029 bag and a survival kit for life from Mrs. Gabbert. On our last day of school, we brought the 5th grade vs. staff kickball game back. It was a great way to end our last day together!
- **Field Day:** We somehow escaped the rain and field day was a FUN day with indoor and outdoor activities. Students enjoyed dry stations with cone hole, frisbee golf and playground time. Wet stations were a ball of fun with water balloon relay, drip drip drench, tug o war, it's raining, it's



pouring just to name a few. Our big hit with students was our bounce house with slides. Students definitely left SV tired after this active and engaging field day.

#### Westridge Elementary

**Westridge Elementary Fourth Quarter PBIS Parties-** This quarter, students took part in a water party celebration for their hard work in being safe, respectful, and responsible. Students could participate if they had zero recovery visits or one visit could be "bought back with Eagle dollars. This celebration included sprinklers, water balloon toss, giant ring toss, sherbet floats, and giant bubbles.

**5th Grade Fun Day**- Each year 5th graders have a special event celebrating all their hard work and achievements in elementary school. Although each year is slightly different, these days always include the tradition of making tie-dye shirts and painting their hands to place on the walls. This year we were able to return to one of Caring for Kids partners, Connection Point, for off-campus games, competitions, food, and dancing.

**Kindergarten Countdown-** Every year kindergarten counts down the end of the year with a letter of the day. Starting with Z, students participate in a special activity related to each letter of the alphabet. In addition, we have an end of the year celebration with parents and students in the gym celebrating all the hard work and accomplishments they've had.

**Talent Show-** We recently wrapped up Talent Show auditions. Each year on the last day of school we host a talent show celebrating the students of Westridge. This year we will Zoom the performance to later share with families.



#### **New Trails Early Learning Center**

**Moving On**- Graduation Class of 2035 and their families were invited to celebrate their child's transition to kindergarten. Each classroom had a special activity planned, performed activities, and handed out certificates.

**Attendance**- Children with 95% attendance and higher were celebrated. The highest attendance children won bikes. We handed out 4 bikes purchased with REF money. The next 8 were given gift cards donated from our Caring For Kid's partners. The rest won Minney and Mikeys.

**Retirement**- We celebrated over 100 years of early childhood experience: Nancy Mcgranaghan , Zee Waddy , Peggy Caton and Trudy Stula. There was a tea, happy hour and breakfast celebrating staff retiring and moving on.

**End of year Celebrations:** NT always ends the year with a water day and picnic. This year the weather was not cooperating. We had to move water-day inside and did messy play activities with a special snack. The last day we were able to have our 15th annual picnic.







## **Three Trails Preschool**

The 22-23 school year has been a year of uncertainty, new procedures and challenges that none of us could have anticipated. Three Trails has focused on building safety, connection and problem-solving with our students and families.

**Moving On:** Three Trails hosted Moving On at Raytown South High. Students were recognized for a great 22-23 school Year. Families were entertained by a performance of 3T favorites school songs. Zoo Trip: All classes were able to take a trip to the Kansas City Zoo. Partnering with transportation 3T was able to work through the weather and find 6 beautiful days to send 11 classrooms of students.

**Cave Springs:** With the support from Homeland Security, Several Three Trails classrooms were escorted to the park and were able to hike and explore the area.

**Performance Arts:** Three Trails students had the opportunity to experience a variety of performances brought to Three Trails. The Kansas City Chamber Orchestra and the Raytown High School Theater both provided students with an engaging performance.

**Community Support:** Raytown Education Foundation awarded Ashley Bosworth and Ann Hudgens a grant for \$3130, Bikes for Tikes. The grant will start a bike training program for the students at 3T in order for students to begin to learn how to ride a bike without training wheels.



