



# Bearkat Buzz

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## Local Celebrity Readers



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## Galkat Basketball

The Galkats' head coach, Cristin Crofford, is hopeful when it comes to the 2020 season.

"We have a young team this season with six upperclassmen and seven freshmen," Crofford said.

Team sports require teamwork on and off the court to reach their maximum potential. Crofford put in the work to ensure the girls got to know each other, respect each other, and establish a solid team.

"With the separation in grade levels, we've had a lot of off the court growing and learning to do," Crofford added.

The Galkats have their sights set on district. Lexi Moore, junior, is excited for the team's season.

"We have a great JV and varsity team. With such a young team, it has been a challenge learning to play together. As we have learned more about each other on and off the court, we have become a better team and a family. We still have a lot to learn and work on, but I feel we have the potential to make this a successful season." Moore said.

Moore knows that there's more to a team than just talent. This is head coach Cristin Crofford's third year to coach, and the assistant coach, Shelby Gresham, has been coaching for four years.

"Behind this great team are great coaches that support and push us beyond our limits to better us and prepare us for district. We couldn't have our wins without them, and although we have our losses, we take these outcomes as a family. I can't wait for the season ahead of us. We love our Galkat FAMILY!" Moore added.

## Game Schedule

*Throw on your purple, escape the cold, and come out and support your Bearkats this holiday break!*

*Check out the school website for game times*

12/22	Central
12/29	Woden
1/1	Wells
1/2	@ New Sum.
1/5	Garrison
1/8	@ Douglass
1/12	@ Alto
1/15	Mt. Enterprise
1/22	@ Woden
1/26	New Sum.
1/29	@ Garrison
2/2	Douglass
2/5	Alto *Senior Night
2/9	@ Mt. Enterprise



## Bearkat Basketball

The Bearkats' head coach, Marlon Garrett, believes the boys are up for the challenge of the upcoming district games.

"We have put in a lot of work, and we also have the toughest district out of the 2A schools," Garrett said.

Senior post, Joseph Humphries, is optimistic the team will be where they want to be in time.

"Overall we have a great varsity and JV team. We have two great coaches who help put us in the best position to win a game, and they push us everyday to be better in practice. It's early in the season, and we still need a lot of work, but hopefully we will get to where we need to be and make a good run in the playoffs. When we played Central Heights, everyone on the team played very well considering it was a close game and they're a good team. We were able to pull through with a win," Humphries said.

Ty Baker, small forward, also mentioned the tough district, but believes the team will be ready.

Baker stated, "The start of the season has been a little tough as we are 5-2. We could have a better record, but we know what we need to improve upon. As the season goes on, I believe we will be ready to go into district strong."

The Bearkats take on the Woden Eagles for their district opener December 29th.

### Gingerbread Village

Elementary art students used cardboard boxes to create an enchanting gingerbread village in the rotunda.

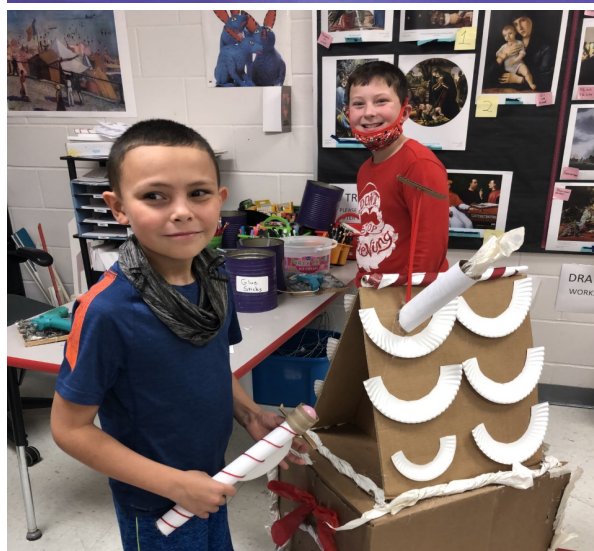
Once again, students transformed upcycled materials such as cardboard and plastic cups into a work of art around the beloved Christmas tree. The addition of music, paper snowflakes and lights made the elementary feel like a winter wonderland. The village included classics such as churches and houses, as well as specialty stores like "Elf-Bucks" and a recreation of a local Nacogdoches boutique, Texas Size Bling.



### Snowman Relays

Coach Willis brought holiday joy to the gym with a fun-filled seasonal activity. Students in PE competed in the "Do You Want to Build a Snowman?" relay.

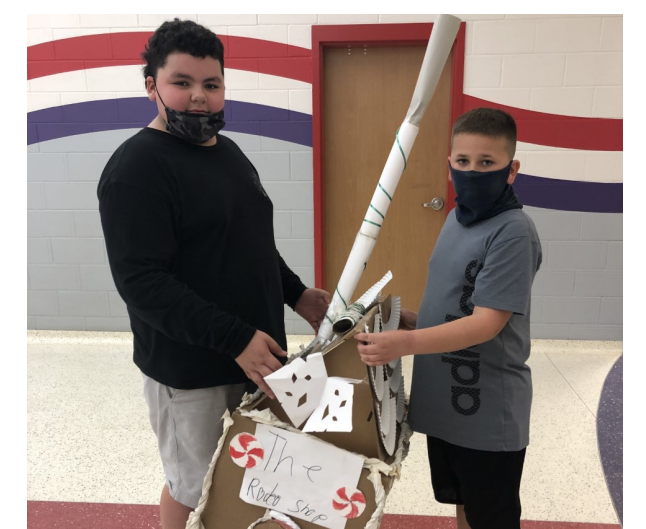
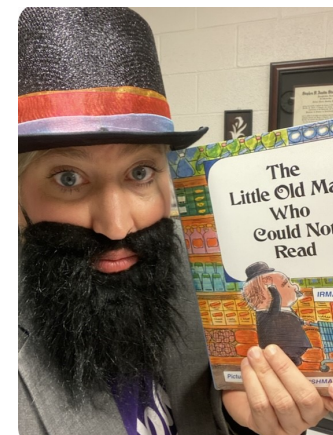
Classes were divided into teams, and students raced to build a snowman out of traditional PE equipment. No two snowmen were alike. Great teamwork, Bearkats!



### Celebrity Reader

Every month, the elementary library invites a celebrity reader to come and speak with the kindergarten through second grade classes.

District librarian, Carrie Langham, said, "The students love trying to guess who the celebrity will be, and it brings a sense of community to our school. Last month we had 'The Little Old Man' AKA Mrs. Jackson, and this month we were visited by Dr. Davis. I have it under good authority that we will be getting a visit from the mayor soon. Bearkats love to listen to our local celebrities read!"



## Principal Perspectives

The challenges of 2020 have placed unforeseen pressures on principals, teachers, and students. CISD principals have made morale a priority, and they have worked to ensure students engage in out-of-the-box activities. Decorating the halls, holiday dress up days, and even a visit from the Grinch have topped the list.

Bearkat Buzz reporter, Kelsey Moore, interviewed high school principal, Andy Gresham, junior high principal, Shane Smelley, and elementary principal, Stefani Jackson to get their perspectives on this school year.

**If you had to describe the first semester of the 20-21 school year in one word, what would that word be?**

*Gresham:* Unprecedented

*Jackson:* Cray-Cray

*Smelley:* Different

**What do you look forward to next semester?**

*Gresham:* Maybe back to some normalcy, and I love the spring and all the activities that go along with it

*Jackson:* Spring time

*Smelley:* STAAR

**With the unpredictable challenges of 2020, how do you personally unwind and recharge?:**

*Gresham:* I enjoy hunting and fishing depending on the time of the year, but the most relaxing is working with my livestock and doing "farm chores" including riding the tractor

*Jackson:* I unwind in the hot tub and recharge by shopping on Amazon. Then I have to get back in the hot tub because I spent too much money on Amazon

*Smelley:* I like to go hunting

**What is your favorite TV show?**

*Gresham:* The only favorite TV show I've ever had was Coach, and most people on this campus have never heard of that show!

*Jackson:* My favorite TV show is 20/20 or Dateline or anything on the ID channel

*Smelley:* ESPN

**What is your favorite holiday tradition?**

*Gresham:* Christmas family get-togethers and smoking turkeys and prime rib for them

*Jackson:* My favorite holiday tradition is watching Christmas movies on Christmas Eve with my family and making cookies for Santa

*Smelley:* Drawing names with family



## Future Kats

Varsity basketball coach, Marlon Garrett, has started working with the sixth grade boys after school on Wednesdays. Garrett plans to work on basic basketball skills such as passing, shooting and dribbling. He hopes to establish a solid foundation and is optimistic that these efforts will benefit our future Bearkats down the road.

With the cancellation of Little Dribblers due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the extra practice and instruction are appreciated by both students and parents alike. The players look forward to Wednesdays.

Garrett said, "Eventually, I want to incorporate fifth graders also. That's if I can keep my energy level up."

## Door Decorating Contest

High School and Junior High teachers and students went all out with a new festive addition. The principals challenged teachers to a Christmas door decorating contest. Congratulations to all the winners!



### High School Classrooms

Grand Champion- Coach Tamez/Coach Fuller's Classroom; Reserve Champion- Mrs. Gardner/Ag Classroom; 2nd Runner Up- Mr. Kerr's Classroom

### JH Classrooms

Grand Champion- Coach Gresham's Classroom; Reserve Champion- Mrs. Reeve's Classroom; 2nd Runner Up- Mrs. Spencer/Art

### Co-Op/Library

Grand Champion- Mrs. Spark's Classroom; Reserve Champion- Mrs. Janik; 2nd Runner Up- Library

