

BIG RIG

Merritt High School, February 2016



Construction Update

by Tristan Dornon

The construction on the building is going quite smoothly. Currently, the construction crew is working on the roof, sheet rocking the walls, and bricking. Also, the workers are in the process of installing the plumbing, electrical, and fire suppression equipment in the building, as well as working on the cooling and heating system. Afterwards, the crew will begin work on the second floor. Due to the worker's hard work the building is actually three weeks ahead of schedule, meaning the construction should be finished by the beginning of June.

Levi Finley paged for Rep. Todd Russ the week of Feb. 15-19 at the Capitol.



Ransley Coomer

by Tristan Dornon

Ransley Coomer is a new student in the eighth grade who has just moved to Merritt from Wheeler, Texas with his sister Kayleigh Coomer. "I really like Merritt," says Ransley, "It's bigger than my old school." However, although Ransley is having a great time at Merritt, he still misses all the friends he had in Wheeler.

Ransley is into several different activities such as sports, of which his favorite to play is baseball. Not only that, but Ransley is also quite involved in showing animals, specifically sheep. Ransley is also quite academically inclined and says his favorite class since moving here is Mrs. Peffer's. After high school Ransley plans on attending Texas Tech to study to become a welder.

New Students

Jacob Morgan

by Kurtis Pittman

Jacob Morgan is a new student at Merritt School. He is an eighteen year old junior. He is playing baseball this season, and when asked if he likes Merritt School, he said "Yes, it is cool." Before he came to Merritt he lived in Lindsay, Oklahoma. Jacob enjoys riding bulls and going to rodeos.

Kayleigh Coomer

by Tristan Dornon

Kayleigh Coomer is a new junior at Merritt who has just moved here from Wheeler, Texas with her brother Ransley. When asked about her time in Wheeler, she said that she loved it there and missed all the friends that she had to leave behind. "I wanted to try something new" she says, after being asked why she moved here.

Since moving here Kayleigh and her brother have also been able to spend much more time with their cousin, Brody Umstead, who already attends school at Merritt. In addition, Kayleigh has also been able to make several new friends, many of which also attend her favorite class, English. Kayleigh's favorite part of moving here has been being able live with her aunt. After high school Kayleigh plans to attend Texas Tech where she'll study to become a labor and delivery nurse.





Junior High Basketball

By Sally Schoenhals

Our Merritt Oilers and Oilertettes finished with a great season. Seventh, eighth, and ninth grade basketball players worked hard on and off the court and it showed this season. The Oilers finished the season undefeated! The Oilertettes finished the season winning ten games and only losing five. Can't wait to see the new players coming into next year and our ninth graders moving onto the high school team.



Elementary Basketball

by Sally Schoenhals

After a great season from our Merritt 5th and 6th graders, they were asked a few questions. Both fifth grade teams finished the season with three games won and three games lost. Breegan Barnett and River Britton both said they loved the competition when they played against Cordell.

I also talked to sixth graders Dayli Pollard and Drayton Aldridge. The sixth grade boys won seven games and lost three. The sixth grade girls won four and lost six. Dayli and Drayton said they both liked the rivalry between Sentinel and Merritt. All four kids can't wait to be able to play high school ball.



High School Basketball

by Bobii Schreck

The high school boys basketball team won the district championship on February 20 in Watonga. The high school girls basketball team was the runner-up in the district tournament. The high school boys team's win-loss record is 17-6. The high school girls basketball team's win-loss record is 13-11. Both the boys and girls are going to be playing in the regional tournament which will be held February 25th-27th in Hinton and Fairview. The area tournament is March 3rd-5th in Enid. At press time the boys are still playing. Good luck to them!! The state basketball tournament is March 10th-12th.

Weight Lifting News

by Sally Schoenhals

On February 5, Merritt power lifters went to Anadarko and competed. Devin Stephens placed fifth in the 198 pound weight division. Aiden Chatfield placed second in the 157 pound weight division. Other participants in the weight meet were Chase DeRocher, Rowdy Pruitt, Zach Lively, Jace Silk, Jarrett Smith, Dawson Fite, Seth Fite, and Shelby Thomas. Shelby is the first female in many years, if not ever, to join our power lifting team. The power lifters are coached by Barret Richardson.

On February 17, Merritt power lifters participated in the Temple weight meet. Devin Stephens placed second in the 198 pound weight division. Aiden Chatfield placed fifth in the 157 pound weight division. Other participants in the Temple weight meet were Chase DeRocher, Rowdy Pruitt, Zach Lively, Jace Silk, Jarrett Smith, Dawson Fite, Seth Fite, and Shelby Thomas.

Regionals will be March 5th at Clinton.



Elementary News

by: Jacky Olivas

Mrs. Skelton's Pre-K news:

They are learning about the letter R and different kinds of animals. The students made a rabbit from the letter R on Monday. They are also going to make a butterfly.

The Pre-K students are learning the poem "Old King Cole." Each student will recite the poem in front of his/her class on Friday.

This week is random acts of kindness week. Students have been asked to bring donations of collars and leashes for the Elk City Animal Shelter. Mrs. Edler, elementary Principal is the person of the week. We will do kind things for her all week.

Mrs. Shockey's 4th grade news:

They are having a fun week, participating in "Random Acts of Kindness" week. Mrs. Shockey's secret person was Ms. Joanie in the High School. They shared a class picture for her to hang on her bulletin board and brought her flowers. She said "It made her day!" Some of the students brought pet supplies to donate to the Elk City Animal Shelter. On the academic side of things, they are working hard to prepare for their OCCT test in April! They would also like to share a BIG Thank You to SWOSU for donating lanyards to all of 4th grade for their student I.D cards! We really appreciate our friends at Sayre!

Mrs. Sanders 1st grade news:

They have been studying George Washington and Abraham Lincoln this month. They have read some interesting books about them. They learned that they both were great men and presidents and they are also learning a song about all of the presidents. They will be creating a green screen project with this song. They are writing paragraphs about Washington and Lincoln. Our class won third place in the state bulletin board contest for Ag in the Classroom. The representative will be here on March 21st to give them an award and a pizza party.

Ag in the classroom bulletin board contest
We entered this contest in December, with the help of one of our parents, Devyn Galmor, we won 3rd place. Most importantly, we will get a pizza party on March 21st!

Music News

by Daniel Hernandez

The Merritt JH and HS Choirs attended the 5-County Music Contest at Hammon on February 3. The results were as follows:

Caitlynn Rodriguez received a I-,
Valora Thomas received a I-,
Brittany Garcia received a II,
Brianna Spady received II,
Allysa Donaldson received a II.

The JH Quartet received a I, the JH Choir received a I, and they were the most outstanding JH ensemble.

On Feb. 13 they attended Solo & Ensemble Districts @ SWOSU. The results were as follows:

Caitlynn Rodriguez received a II,
Allysa Donaldson received a II,
Brittney Stone received a III,
Brittany Garcia received a IV,

and on March 2 they will be competing at the District Choir Contest @ SWOSU.



Academic Team

by Daniel Hernandez

We have two students that received the MVP plaque for their teams at the Oklahoma Great Plains Academic Conference Banquet at Thomas on February 15. Tristan Dornon for the HS team and Allysa Donaldson for the JH team. Allysa also placed second in the conference for overall scorers in the JH. Merritt is proud of their academic achievement.

Oilers of Tomorrow

by Daniel Hernandez

The Oilers of Tomorrow created goodie bags and handed them out to each teacher and faculty member on Wednesday February 17. On February 19, they volunteered to help construct the Community Garden in Elk City. They staked the planting plots and mulched the walk ways.

Mrs.Brady's Art Class

by Dakayta Boyd

Mrs.Brady's art class is working on clay.



Speech Contest 2016

By:Dakayta Boyd

1st Grade

- Hannahlee Cloud 1+
- Cale Galmour 1+
- Diego Chavira 1+
- Dasen Harman 1
- Emma Miller 1
- Jaysa Schmidt 1

2nd Grade

- Austin Smith 1
- Embree McGuire 1
- Hallie Smith 1
- Gracie Smith 1
- Brooklyn Mayfield 1
- Preslie Taylor 1

3rd Grade

- Jerzi Elizondo 1+
- Alie Hamilton 1+
- Avry Pruitt 1+
- Cole Carter 1+
- Carston Copeland 1+
- Elizabeth White 1+

4th Grade

- Kassidy Callahan 1+
- McKinley Clem 1+
- Tanner Newton 1
- Devin Carey 1
- Breanna Simon 1+
- Peyton Broadbent 1+
- Major Paige 1+

5th Grade

- Ethan Cain 1+
- Audrey Ferguson 1
- Emberli Stone 1+
- Danni Dobbins 1+
- Breegan Barnett 1+
- Jolea Gilbert 1+

6th Grade

- Dayli Pollard 1+
- Dailee Taylor 1+
- Lexie Frazier 1+
- Y'Leigh Yarbrough 1+
- Taylor Ford 1+
- Lilly Rangel 1+



Students of the Month

by Tristan Dornon

7th - Joshlyn Thomas

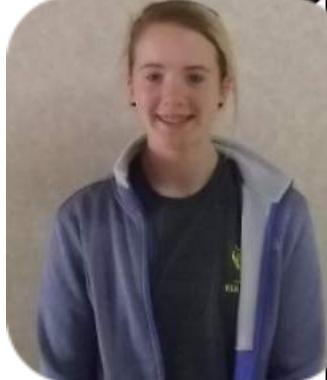
8th - Allison Justus

9th - Mackenzie Mong

10th - Mikiah Carnes

11th - Sydni Sanders

12th - Mckayla Doty



Oilers of the Month

Junior High - Ben Mills

High School - Cadlyn Smith

