



# The “Crosswalk”:

*Getting Your Information from Here to There*

Volume 2; Issue 1: The 1st Quarter Recap Edition)

October 24, 2022

## From the Princi-PAL / Lead Learner's Desk



Greetings Bell Creek Family:

We have had a very busy start to the school year, but it has been great to see all of the learning, teaching, relationship building, and positive interactions and outcomes within our school days. It has also been nice to regain our focus on learning after several years of healthcare and student safety being our top priorities throughout the pandemic.

Now that we've gotten settled into the school year, second quarter will pick up with more targeted interventions, gap-closing, and enrichment for students on an individualized and/or small-group basis. The fall brings many exciting things: we just had our 6th Annual Great Pumpkin Auction, and up next are the Fall Harvest celebrations, our Veteran's Day celebration, and of course the excitement of holiday season will be upon us very soon.

On behalf of the entire faculty and staff at BCI, I want to thank you for engagement and support in our students' journeys through the intermediate years. It is our pleasure and privilege to get to know them, teach them, and watch them grow and learn each day. We had record numbers of parents/guardians and families in attendance for our recent parent-teacher conferences and your partnership in education is such a blessing.

Be on the lookout for some important information in this edition of the *Bell Creek Crosswalk*: (not necessarily in this order)

- ❖ Welcome to our New Bell Creek Family Members 🙌
- ❖ Arrival/Departure Reminders 🚗
- ❖ Highlights from The Great Pumpkin Auction 🎃
- ❖ S.O.A.R. & PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports) Information 🦅
- ❖ Volunteers 🧑
- ❖ Third Grade State Testing in English-Language Arts 📖
- ❖ Report Cards 📋 & School Fees 💰
- ❖ What's New at Bell Creek 🆕
- ❖ Upcoming & Important Dates 📅

I couldn't be prouder to be the Lead Learner at Bell Creek Intermediate. I consider myself fortunate and blessed to work with such a talented and dedicated staff and to serve such an amazing group of students who all work together to make Bell Creek a great place to learn, grow, teach, and work for all.

If you have any questions or if there's anything I can help you with, please do not hesitate to contact me or a member of our office staff at any time.

Together in education,

Mr. Donnie Phelps, M.Ed.  
Lead Learner/Principal

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## Welcome to New Staff & Students!

We are off to such a great start this year and have had a wonderful first quarter of school! All of the credit goes to our talented teachers, sensational staff, super-star students, and fantastic families who have worked together to make our beginning such a success! We are pleased to welcome **THIRTY-EIGHT** new students and their families into our Bell Creek Family this year, with a few more on the way! In addition to new students, we also have new staff and faculty joining us:

- Mrs. Lori Camp, 3rd Grade
- Mrs. Jill Culler, 3rd Grade (formerly in 2nd Grade at Stephen Bell Elementary)
- Mrs. Cheyann Evans, 3rd Grade
- Mrs. Julia Jones, 3rd Grade
- Mrs. Ashli Martin, 4th Grade Math & Science
- Miss Lilah Fox, 5th Grade Math
- Mr. Scott Killen, 5th Grade Science & Social Studies
- Mrs. Sarah Gregga, Art
- Ms. Jennifer Urbaniak, School Counselor
- Mrs. Kathy Barlow, Digital Literacy
- Mrs. Cathy Mantia, Paraprofessional
- Mrs. Clara Faria, Paraprofessional

You can get to know our Bell Creek Staff Family by checking out our [Staff Family Album here](#).

## Arrival & Departure Reminders

We are operating much more efficiently in the mornings and in the afternoons as students are arriving and departing Bell Creek. We appreciate your patience and cooperation to ensure the safety of all of our students and staff while we established routines. Here are a few reminders to ensure our continued efficiency and safety each day:

**8:45:** Gym Doors open to students who are dropped off; **please do not** drop off before 8:45 as there is no supervision; students may not play on the playground or roam the school grounds until the school opens.

**8:55:** Buses release students

**8:45-9:00:** Grab 'n Go Breakfast Available in the Cafeteria

**3:30:** Warning Bell - signal to clean up, pack up, check for change of dismissal with homeroom teacher

**3:35:** Car Riders are released to the gym for carline dismissal; Walkers & Bikers are dismissed

**3:40:** Buses are dismissed upon arrival beginning at 3:40







### Bus Riders



Unfortunately we have had some undesirable and unexpected bus behaviors so far this year. Please remember that ridership is a privilege, not a right, and there are important rules in place for safety reasons that everyone must follow.

- Please be at your assigned stop at least 5 minutes before you expect the bus to arrive; if you are waiting in a car at a bus stop, please exit the vehicle and be ready to board the bus before it reaches your stop.
- Food and drink are not allowed.
- Foul language, inappropriate material on devices or other sources, and name-calling, unkind gestures, and making fun of others are not acceptable behaviors.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have the best drivers and they work hard to not only ensure students get to and from school safely, but also genuinely care about our kids and work with us to make sure that their needs are met so that students have positive school experiences - please use inside voices, stay seated and clear of the aisles, and cooperate with your driver - they have a big job to do, so please help them by being on your best behavior.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Car Riders</b></p> 	<p>Carline is going so much better this year now that we are able to utilize the gym for arrival and dismissal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please do not drop off before 8:45 as there is no supervision and it is not safe for students to be playing or roaming on the grounds</li> <li>Please utilize a car sign in the afternoon to ensure an efficient dismissal. The tags we provided this year attach to your passenger visor and all you have to do is flip it down! If you aren't sure, you can find <a href="#">directions for how to install it linked here</a>. If you still need one, please email <a href="#">Mrs. Terrell</a> and she will send one home with your student.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Walkers, Bike Riders</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please be aware of our Crosswalk on Upper Bellbrook Road. It is supervised from 8:45-9:00 and again from 3:35-3:50 each day. Watch for the flashing lights and the adult with the stop sign who is there to help students cross safely.</li> <li>The weather and time are changing... please be sure that your students are appropriately dressed, have reflective components to their backpacks, bicycles, helmets, etc.</li> <li>We are working on adding more bike racks - we have many more students biking to school now that we have a later arrival time, which is great!</li> <li>The high school administration has worked with our school to make the pathway over to Kable's Mill safer, but our students need to be sure to leave the cones and other high school belongings alone. This also includes rock throwing and ensuring that we are treating all of our friends kindly and using S.O.A.R. behaviors even on the trip home.</li> </ul>

## Volunteers

We have loved having volunteers back in the building helping our teachers. Bell Creek welcomes volunteers on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please check with teachers or the information [on the website linked here](#) as our safety protocols and procedures have changed this year.

## School Fees

Current school fees invoices will be sent home with a paper copy of report cards at the end of this week. Be on the lookout for them. You can find information about paying fees by following [this link](#).

## Report Cards for Quarter 1

First Quarter report cards are coming home at the end of the week, but the electronic version is live on [ProgressBook Parent Access](#). If you are having trouble accessing ProgressBook, please contact our school counselor, [Ms. Jennifer Urbaniak](#).

## S.O.A.R. & P.B.I.S. (Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports)

Every school in Ohio is required to establish a PBIS program. The primary goal of PBIS is to reinforce and celebrate the taught, modeled, and practices desired behaviors and procedures in school. Our PBIS program at BCI was revamped this year to better fit in the cultural framework of the district and to align with the other buildings P-12 in our shared beliefs, behaviors, and outcomes that Golden Eagles at all levels:



In order to make this more concrete and understandable for our eight to eleven year olds, we established the S.O.A.R. acronym to replace the R2-P2 expectations in the former system. Each letter of S.O.A.R. represents a trait and outcome we hope for each student to show in everything they do.

Graphic Art Credit: Ms. Amy Brewer (3rd Grade Teacher)



Each student has a PBIS Rewards account and they earn points for showing their best S.O.A.R. behavior all over the building! They can redeem their points in teachers' "stores" or the school store. With the school store, their purchases are delivered by the Woot-Woot Wagon on Fridays during lunches.

When students show behavior that isn't aligned with our S.O.A.R. expectations, as a minor infraction they will likely be completing a "Reflect & Respond" form that will be sent home for parents/guardians to sign and return. A big part of discipline is being a disciple and learning from our mistakes. Our team believes that students can learn to be self-reflective, identify their mistakes, choose how to make reparations for how their actions may affect others and our collective goals, and respond better given a similar situation in the future.

You can view our entire PBIS/S.O.A.R. matrix by [clicking here](#).

## What's New & What's Been Goin' On this Quarter

Check out this week's Board of Education Meeting to learn more about what's new this year at BCI. We have so much to be proud of and excited about... here are some of the new things goin' on:

- ★ Art Class once a week, alternating with STEM
- ★ Digital Literacy class once a week
- ★ Student Council is back... and just did some great fund raising to support the Pink Ribbon Girls and its organization goals
- ★ Breakfast! - available every morning in our cafeteria, grab 'n go style!
- ★ Neon Night K-5 Dance - we raised \$2500 each for BCI and SBE for playground equipment!
- ★ LiMS (Literacy in Mathematics & Science) Center Lab - a multi-purpose lab space for teachers and students to use





## Third Grade State Testing in ELA

As part of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee, the Ohio State Test for English-Language Arts is administered in the fall and the spring annually. Third grade teachers have been working all quarter to prepare students for the test. Results won't be released until December or January and we will use them to continue to plan instruction and interventions or enrichment for classes and students. Our third graders will take the test in two parts beginning on Wednesday, October 26 and finishing on Thursday, October 27. We will test first thing in the morning and swap lunch times and specials with fourth grade in order to accommodate a larger block of time for uninterrupted testing. It's important that students get plenty of rest and eat breakfast either at home or school especially on test days. The goal is for them to do their best and show what they know in reading and writing. More information about the Ohio State Testing can be found [here](#).

## The Great Pumpkin Auction 2022

The Great Pumpkin Auction, hosted by the fifth grade and headed up by fifth grade Math & Social Studies teacher, Mr. Scott Anderson, was another huge success. We really didn't think we could do better than 2021, but we nearly matched it! Fifth grade students and families decorate pumpkins to be auctioned off in a live auction with real auctioneers! All proceeds go to A Special Wish Foundation to send individuals and their families from the Greater Dayton area on A Special Wish trip. Over \$12,000 were raised between pumpkins auctioned, face painting, pop corn sales, and the donations from our food truck vendors. It was a great time had by all... and I am now the proud owner of TWO Bellbrook Golden Eagle-themed pumpkins that will not perish (this time!) :-)



## Important Upcoming Dates

You can always access the most up-to-date calendar information for BCI by [visiting the calendar site on the district's page](#)... in the upper right corner, you can filter off the other schools to view only Bell Creek information.

**Oct. 26-27:** Grade 3 ELA State Test  
**Oct. 27:** Board of Education Mtg. 7:00 @ Bell Creek  
**Oct 28-Nov 10:** Book Fair

**Nov 10:** Veteran's Day Celebration  
**Nov 11:** NO SCHOOL  
**Nov 21-25:** Fall Break

**Dec 21:** Last day of 2nd Quarter  
**Dec 22-Jan 3:** Winter Break  
**Jan 4:** School Resumes/3rd Quarter Begins

The Bell Creek Reading Garden, originally established by retired teacher Mrs. Libby Stanton, got a much-needed facelift this past year thanks to BHS Junior, Matteo Krivitzky and his Eagle Scout Project. We are all so proud of the great job he did! What a great way to help the community! Mrs. Stanton will be so happy!

