



2022-2023

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# The Big Walnut Key Club



We are so proud of all of the hard work the BW Key Club has put in so far this year. As a new club to Big Walnut High School we have had a few challenges, but more ups than downs. This club deserves a huge THANK YOU! As proud of you as we are, you should be proud of yourself too! This newsletter includes some of the great things we have done this year and plan to continue next year as well. We hope you enjoy reading about all of your amazing accomplishments!

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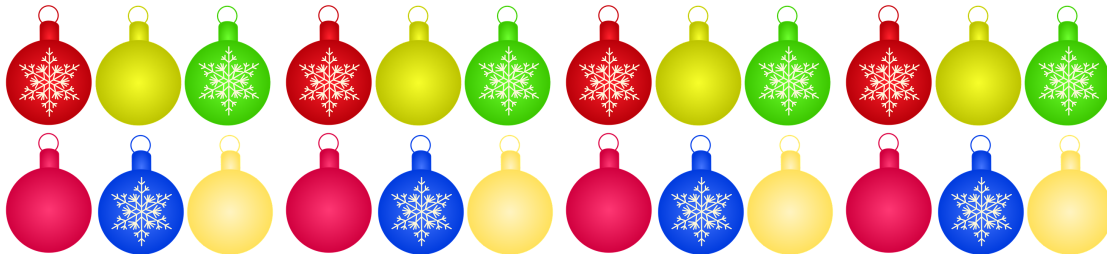
Fall 2022

## Pumpkin Decorating



Our club formed in the fall of 2022 and we kicked off our 1st meeting with pumpkin painting for the residents at The Trail at Walnut Creek here in Sunbury. With the changing of the season, we moved on to planning for our upcoming events.

# Ornament Making



The club helped the Kiwanis Club of Sunbury with making ornaments at Christmas on The Square, presented by Sunbury Chamber of Commerce. It was seasonably cold, but everybody had a great time and a great start to the holiday season.

## Did you know?

Key Club is the largest and oldest student-led service organization in the world with over 260,000 members in 37 different countries. Key Clubbers around the world work to grow in leadership through service based projects in their local communities.

As members of Key Club we are committed to serving and giving back to the community as much as possible. We are always looking for new service opportunities to help grow in character, service, and leadership. We realize that youth serving not just our community of Sunbury but the rest of our country and world is important and with that in mind we dedicate our time for the betterment of those communities.

# Spreading Holiday Cheer



The Key club members made Holiday cards for the residents at The Inn at Walnut Trail here in Sunbury. The members had a great time making the cards, and hope it helped to spread cheer and joy to all who received the card during the holiday season.

## Fun Facts about Key Club

- The first Key Club was created at Sacramento High School in 1925.
- What does the KEY in Key Club stand for? The “Key Boys” were the popular boys at Sacramento High School who started the first Key Club to give back to their community.
- The then future U.S. president John F. Kennedy was present at the 1956 convention in Washington D.C..
- Females were not allowed in Key Club until 1976.
- Past Key Club members include- Bill Clinton, Elvis Presley, and Brad Pitt.

# Board Elections



**PARKER**

**ADDY**

**ZAYNA**

**AUTUMN**

**BRENNAN**

**NICO**

Key Club is a self-governing, student-led organization. Each year, Key Club members elect their student officers for the club. Key Club members receive guidance and support from adult volunteers, including Kiwanis advisors, faculty advisors and district administrators. The organization is funded by nominal dues paid by each member.

The 2022-2023 elected board members are-

President- Parker Holmes (Class of 2026), Vice President- Addison Oppliger (Class of 2026), Treasurer- Autumn Newman (Class of 2024), Secretary-Zayna Rahi (Class of 2025), Freshman Class Director- Nico Ranalli (Class 2025), Sophomore class Director- Brennan Wharton (Class 2025) ***Congratulations to these new members!***

# Hygiene Drive



Our hygiene drive collected two large boxes of supplies- shampoos, conditioners, deodorant, tooth brushes, hair brushes, feminine products etc.. We are pretty sure our amazing club members donated almost 100% of these items, but this is a

learning and growing year, on how to organize and run drives. We have learned some valuable lessons on giving and helping others. The great news is we donated these items to our BWHC counseling office for student use.

## Craft Projects



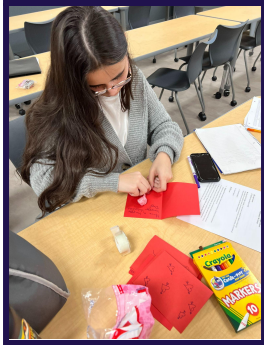
One of our projects this year was making blankets. This craft project was designed to donate the blanket to someone special. We purchased yards of fleece and cut, cut, cut. This project took us several weeks as we worked on it a little each the meetings. We donated these to Children's Hospital and hope these handmade blankets will make the child feel cozy during their time at Children's Hospital.

## More Fun Facts about Key Club

- There are close to 300,000 members!
- Every Key Club official color has a meaning- Blue stands for unwavering character, gold stands for service, and white stands for purity.
- Current Florida senator Bill Nelson is a past Key Club International President.
- As of 2010, Key Club has 30 member nations, and clubs exist on every continent except Antarctica.
- Originally, Key Club adopted the Kiwanis International motto "We Build" as it's own. However, the motto was changed in 1978 to "Caring - Our Way of Life,"

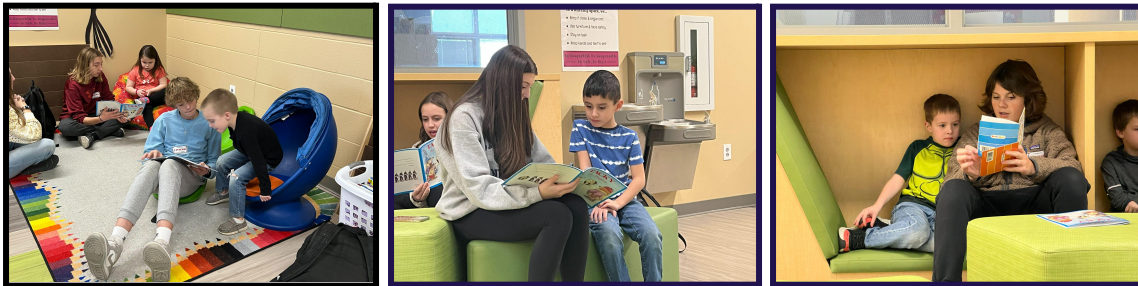
because it was thought that this motto better reflected the passion the Key Clubbers have for serving the world.

## Valentines day LOVE



The members made Valentine's cards for the whole staff at Big Walnut High School. The kids had fun creating these cards for their teachers and staff members passing them out. We added a little treat to them all too! The Key club hopes this made them feel special on Valentine's day.

## Buddy Reading at PRE



In February the Key club met our new Prairie Run Elementary buddies and started the Buddy program. The Reading buddy program (pairs younger students up with older students to work on reading), is a great solution to accelerate the social skill set for both sets of kids. The goal is to help the younger students love to read with



our club members. Younger children especially enjoy the one-to-one reading attention they receive from their older buddies. We met on Wednesdays from 2:45-3:15, and began to read read read! This has been a great experience for our club members. Hopefully this event continues through the years as our Key Club buddies really enjoyed reading to the PRE buddies.

## Guest Speakers



We had two wonderful guest speakers this year.

First up was Jeff Givens, the owner of Sambuc's Market in Galena. He was also a Key club member in high school. This is such a neat twist to think about while listening to him. He explained how the leadership and service of his high school Key club helped him start his own business. This was a great example for the kids to hear

how our values of leadership, character building, caring, and inclusiveness helped him become a successful business owner.

In February, we had Luke Oppliger. Luke has a special place with our club, his daughter is our VP this year! Luke told us about his amazing trip to Malawi and the Design Outreach program. This program was amazing and the kids kept it close to their hearts. We hope to make a donation to the Design Outreach program in the future.

## Plant Sale



We did a small plant sale this year to help our administration and service budgets. As with many projects, the first year is the toughest. As a club, we did great and the members stepped up and sold lots of plants. As with any projects next year we will implement all of the things we learned this year and make it an even better event next year. Thanks to Sambuca's for this great collaboration on our first fundraiser for Key club.

# Earth Day Celebration





The Earth Day Celebration was our biggest service project of the year! We spent many months planning this event and it turned out great! The weather was perfect and all of our projects went off without a hitch.. The face painting station was fun and our face painters did a great job. We also had a pot decorating station for all the little artists out there to share their creativity. The club members passed out hotdogs to anyone who wanted to enjoy a little treat. This event was such a fun way to celebrate Earth day and the Key Club is looking forward to next year's Earth Day Celebration!

## Community Expo



This was a fun event put on by the Sunbury Big Walnut Area Chamber of Commerce. We joined the Sunbury Kiawans and provided a quick craft for anyone who was interested in making a card for our staff at Big Walnut High school. We will have lots of cards to pass out in the next week. These are the fun service projects we enjoy being involved in to get our new club's name out there and spread kindness among our high school students, staff and community.

# Final Thoughts

Our goal this year for the club was to help the members develop **strong leadership skills** with each member having the opportunity to step up and take part in service projects, social activities, and club functions. I feel like we have done this! Of course there is always room for improvement, but overall this has been a great year with BWHS Key Club! Thank you to all of our outstanding members for an amazing year!

*Angie Holmes & Stephanie Kreager*- Key Club Advisors

Follow us on Instagram- Keyclubbwhs



BWHS KEY Club 2022-2023