



SCHOOL PAGE

School Menu

Blackwell CISD

Breakfast

Monday, December 4

Confetti pancakes, fruit, juice, milk

Tuesday, December 5

Cereal, fruit, juice, milk

Wednesday, December 6

Pizza, fruit, juice, milk

Thursday, December 7

Biscuit, gravy, fruit, juice, milk

Friday, December 8

Muffin, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk

Lunch

Monday, December 4

Chicken nuggets, mac-n-cheese, smiley fries, milk

Tuesday, December 5

Soup, crackers, cheese toast, milk

Wednesday, December 6

No menu available

Thursday, December 7

No menu available

Friday, December 8

No menu available

Students learn 'paw'some lessons about farm dogs

By Shelby Shank
Field Editor

Students across the state saw a working farm dog in action through Texas Farm Bureau's (TFB) Farm From School program.

Kindergarten through fifth-grade students virtually "meet" with a farmer or rancher once a month through the program using a video conferencing app.

This session, students learned from Russell McCord and his border collie, Sally, about the work farm and ranch dogs can do.

"Each month, we bring agriculture to the classroom through these virtual visits to give students a look at the diversity of agriculture. They get to learn about the various crops grown in Texas, the

livestock that ranchers raise and so much more about agriculture like the role that dogs play on the farm," said Jordan Bartels, TFB associate director of Organization Division, Education Outreach. "Students asked Russell many questions about Sally and the commands she knows."

McCord has owned and trained border collies since the mid-eighties. He has had Sally since she was a six-week-old puppy and started training her when she was eight months old. Now, Sally is 4 years old, knows how to round up sheep for McCord and has won a quite a few titles.

"She's a wonderful dog. She won Dog of the Year for the Texas Sheep Dog Association and has qualified for the finals the past three years," McCord said. "She also qualified for the world trials, which is a huge honor, and she was one of 10 dogs from the United States that qualified. We're proud of her."

McCord taught Sally 15 commands that he uses when working and moving sheep.

McCord uses a shepherd's whistle to teach Sally her commands. Dogs can hear the whistle from a great distance, which is beneficial when they are bringing up livestock far away and can still hear the command.

"The cool thing about border collies is they're really smart dogs, and you can teach them just about anything," McCord said. "Her natural instinct is to go around the sheep and bring them to us. After working with them for a while and they know their commands, you can teach dogs to move the sheep away from you. That can be hard because it goes against their natural instincts."

It can take up to a year to fully train a working farm dog.

When looking for his fur-ever friend, McCord pays attention to their build, feet size and tongue.

"Dogs sweat through their mouth," he said. "If their tongue sticks out in front of them and they pant a little, they



Honoring Veterans! Bronte ISD held a Veterans Day ceremony on Friday, November 10, honoring local veterans. Activities included a slide show and presentations by BISD students.

generally have a lot of stamina. side and they're panting really have much stamina." If their tongue hangs out to the bad, that dog usually does not (Continued on next page)

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