



Extracurricular

## Ella Gross: Dancer

Ella Gross (8) loves the spotlight as she dances on the Kealing Dance Team, but no skill comes easily. "I've been dancing almost my whole life and I still love it." However even with this much experience, she still has to work hard. "I practice after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays for 4 hours and then I practice the entire day on Saturday. It really takes out time on my free time." But along with practice, no pain no gain. "I have pulled many muscles and broken a lot of toes. Once when I pulled four muscles in my back, I had to take a break from dance for two months and that was really rough." Ella explained how dance is also an art, "it's just beautiful to watch; it's interactive and it makes you interpret things differently."

Story by Sarah Chieng and Kimmy Wilson



Photo by Savannah Riddles

### Pli-YAY

In dance class, Marissa Flores (8), Nadeya Dotson (8), Alexis Leday (8), and Alize Hernandez (8) put their arms out and practice their pliés. "Dancing with my friends makes it fun, and the practice makes it easier," Nadeya said. Photo by Miriam Ballard



### Sky High

Putting their pom poms in the air, A'lyrika Ransom (8) and Robyn McCray (8) get the crowd excited about the football game.

"Cheer is a great way to make new friends, cheer on the team, and I hope to continue in high school," A'lyrika said.

Photo by Sylvia Reed



### C-H-E-E-R

At a seventh grade boys' basketball game, Ana Barron (8), Robyn McCray (8), and Mamie Seiler (8) put their hands together for their cheer routine, motivating the team to try their best.

Photo by Camille Selis



### Loud and Proud

Holding her pom pom high in the air, Ana Barron (8) yells and cheers at the pep rally, helping to increase school pride and lift spirits.

Photo by Abigail Daly



### Everybody Clap Your Hands

At their first performance of the year, Chiara Torrini (8) claps her pom poms together. According to Chiara, the supportive team was important. "It was great knowing you can rely on your teammates and your friends," Chiara says.

Photo by Abigail Daly



### Magnificent Mascot

"Let's go Kealing!" Magaly Hernandez (8) inspires us all in the furry hornet costume she wears as the mascot. Getting the crowd excited can be tiring and a lot of work, but Magaly knows how to do her job well.

Photo by Sylvia Reed



1



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### Stupefying Stunts

Stunting is an important part of cheer routines, since it helps bring energy to the team and audience. 1. Audrey Sayer (8) and Clara Gibbs (8) support Sarah Bagh (8) by creating a base that she can stand on. Photo by Sylvia Reed 2. Cheering from the top of the pyramid, Margaret Savage (8) smiles at the stands while Claire Caudill (8) and Courtney Bengtson (8) hold her up.

Photo by Abigail Daly

8

Aaria Ware Rattler (8) put a diaper on her head when she was 3.

6

Rudy Davila (7) has 6 cousins.



Fiona Carrolan (8) is in 8th grade.

3

Louis Mayes (7) gets 1 birthday cake every year.

1

Team Ivartin has 6 members in it.



Sophia De Leon (7) has been out of the country 0 times.

0

3

Dylan Davila (7) moved to Austin when he was 5.

5

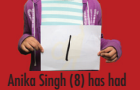
6

Maggie Bishop (8) has 6 chickens.

Shalaya Threadgill (7) has 3 sisters.

3

Anika Singh (8) has had 1 fish.



Laurel Schultz (6) has been snowboarding 0 times.



## BOP TO THE TOP

Many sports require strength and skill, including dance, but not many sports involve such serious commitment and creativity. "Dance is a way to express myself," Sophie Knifton (7) said. In a way dancing is like a mix of intense exercise and beautiful art. "You

get to make up your own dance moves and be creative when doing the choreography," Katie Havranek (7) added. "You also get to have fun with your friends," Jackie Meisel (7) said. The group inspires us every time they perform. Working together, the dance team twirls towards perfection. Story by Kimmy Wilson

## Savannah Riddles: Cheerleader



Photo by Sumin Choi

We all know how school takes up a lot of our time, especially at Kealing. This can make it hard to manage homework and participate in other activities. "I would want to do cheer in high school, but it depends on my schedule," Savannah Riddles (8) said. Savannah spends her time doing what she loves, dancing and cheering. "I joined cheer because it seemed similar to dance and like a fun athletic activity at school." However she explained how there's a difference between dance and cheer. "I like them both, but in cheer we do more structured routines and it's more intense." Like every sport, there are challenges you come across, "we all have different opinions and working with people can be difficult," Savannah said. Luckily working together pays off when the cheer team performs, "the whole team work hard, it's not just the captain, we each have to put in effort to represent Kealing." Story by Sarah Chieng and Kimmy Wilson



1



2



3



4

### Cheer Without Fear

1. With a smile on her face, Desaray Trevino (7) hands her pom poms to Magaly Hernandez (8). Photo by Abigail Daly 2. Crouching down, Audrey Sayer (8) feels the head of Magaly Hernandez's (8) costume. Photo by Camille Selis 3. During a soccer game, Ana Alejo (8) and Marissa Flores (8) chat with each other while waiting to perform a cheer. Photo by Abigail Daly 4. At the first pep rally of the year, Margaret Savage (8), Savannah Riddles (8), Savoria Seay (8), and Audrey Sayer (8) wave their pom poms in the air as they cheer. Photo by Abigail Daly

## Clear Eyes, Full Hearts

### Cheerleaders support the team, win or lose

It was dark as the eighth grade football players slowly made their way off the field. The last game of the season had ended, and though they fought hard, it was to no avail. Four key players had been injured and everyone felt beaten. Zone championships were over, and we had lost.

It's a simple fact—in every game there is a winner, and sadly, someone must lose. But regardless of a game's ending, it is the cheerleader's tradition to create a pom pom tunnel for the players as they exit the field. And this game was no different.

"When our team wins, we celebrate with them, but when they lose, we just really try to cheer them up."

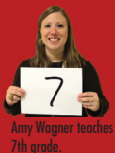
As they marched forward, staring down at their dirty cleats, the team held back their emotions as best they could.

"It was really emotional. We did our cheers and tried to smile," Delaney Carter (8) said.

Win or lose, the cheerleaders are there to support their team. "When our team wins we celebrate with them, but when they lose we just really try to cheer them up," Delaney said.

That's all part of the job—whether it's football games, basketball, or pep rallies, the cheerleaders bring confidence, encouragement, and smiles.

Story by Kimmy Wilson



Mark Rangel (8) has 6 brothers.

6 9 0

Carlo Maples has 0 more days of Kealing - he moved schools!



Vikas Dhulipala (6) has 1 sister.

0 4

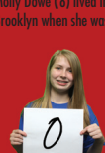
Carlos Escobar-Ugarte (7) liked his 4th grade teacher.



Jose Pineda (7) used to be 7 years old.



Angelina Maldonado-Huber (6) has 1 cat.



Molly Dowe (8) lived in Brooklyn when she was 0.



Elizabeth Myers (7) has 1 sister.



Adrian Hernandez (6) went somewhere cool when he was 8.



Elyshia Danaher (8) was adopted when she was 1.