



**SNOWED IN** While artificial snow swirls around him, kindergartener **Gage Morton** throws a makeshift snowball. The snow and a visit from Santa was a surprise for the students after they watched the *Polar Express*. "We got to throw snow at each other and play in it," Morton said. "We got to wear our pajamas too." (Photo by Laura Kubena)

**FARM FUN** While admiring the chick, third graders **Paige Marcantel** and **Jayden Smith** talk about how fluffy the little creature is. The third grade class traveled to the Wharton County Youth fairgrounds to learn about farm animal production and wildlife. "We saw a lot of different animals," Marcantel said. "The chicks were my favorite because I got to hold it." (Photo by Courtney Hudgins)





# KIDDING ASIDE

By Mackenzie VanGossen

FUN HAS JUST BEGUN



**UP UP AND AWAY** Kindergarten students **Colton Romero** and **Macy Stavinoha** look up at the sky as their balloons take flight. As a part of the celebration for the 100th day of school, kindergarteners released balloons containing a note. "The note had my name on it," Romero said. "It said where it came from." (Photo by Russel Zahradnik)



**GATOR AIDE** As he stares down the throat of a live alligator, kindergartener **Sawyer East** gets a little nervous. To educate them more on wildlife, kindergarten teacher Mrs. **Stephanie Guthman** arranged for the animal to be brought to the school on a trailer to show the students. "The alligator was scaly and dry," East said. "He looked scary because of all his teeth." (Photo by Laura Kubena)



1. With the sound of **Allison Brantly's** voice in the background, **Sommer Tijerina** focuses in on the ball. The camp is held during the summer to help the players prepare for the season. "We bump against the wall to warm up," Tijerina said. "I think camp helped me be a better player." (Photo by Lauren Stolle) 2. After bumping into each other, kindergartners **Lance Ware** and **Carson Todd** look up and laugh. The kindergarten PE class played games like the Name Game on the scooters. "PE was my favorite class," Ware said. "It hurt when I ran my fingers over." (Photo by Rebecca Robius) 3. As Mrs. **Frances Leopold** places their hands on the paper, the children's hands take the shape of a heart. Mrs. Leopold's class had photos taken of the activity. "We took the pictures for the fall festival," Leopold said. "It was our donation to be sold for the school." (Photo Jeremy Hough)