



**BERRY  
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

# Parent Newsletter

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**Fax Number: 439.2001**

***Principal: Dr. Chris Robbins***

*6<sup>th</sup> grade Assistant Principal: Mr. Ted Flannery*  
*7<sup>th</sup> grade Assistant Principal: Mrs. Dana Ricks*  
*8<sup>th</sup> grade Assistant Principal: Ms. Kari Tibbs*

QR Code  
for school  
web page.



**BREAKFAST/LUNCH MENUS:**  
<http://bit.ly/1OTzak6>

**February 23, 2018**

**Vol. 24, #27**

At Berry Middle School, we aim to be *caring and supportive, challenging and engaging, and innovative and relevant*. We create a safe and inviting environment for every student and staff member by building “*Berry PRIDE*” and creating a “*No Put-Down Zone*”.

## UPCOMING EVENTS & REMINDERS

- **SPHS Counselors in 8-2 Classes** – Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup>
- **Team 7-1 Field Trip to Zoo** – Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup>
- **Boys’ Golf @ Top Pro** – Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2-3 PM
- **Softball @ Liberty Park** – Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 4:30-5:30 PM, rec fields
- **SPHS Counselors in 8-1 Classes** – Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>
- **Team 7-4 Field Trip to the Zoo** – Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>
- **NJHS Rehearsal in the Gym** – Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 8:30-9 AM
- **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Band to MPAs** – Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 9 AM-2 PM
- **Spring Play Auditions** – Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 3:30-5 PM
- **Berry Tennis vs. Oak Mountain @ Berry** – Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 3:45-4:45 PM
- **Pink Shirt Day** – Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>
- **Team 7-3 Field Trip to Zoo** – Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>
- **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band to MPAs** – Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>
- **Berry Tennis vs. Mountain Brook @ MBHS** – Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 3:45-4:45 PM
- **Softball @ Thompson** – Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 4-5 PM
- **Team 7-2 Field Trip to Zoo** – Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>
- **Play Rehearsal** – Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 3:30-5 PM
- **Girls’ Golf vs. Liberty Park @ Heatherwood** – Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 4-5 PM
- **NJHS Inductions** – Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 6:30-8 PM
- **Softball SP Jag Classic Tournament @ SPHS** – Friday & Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>
- **Author Visit, Assemblies, Author Lunch** – Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>
- **Play Rehearsal** – Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1-4 PM

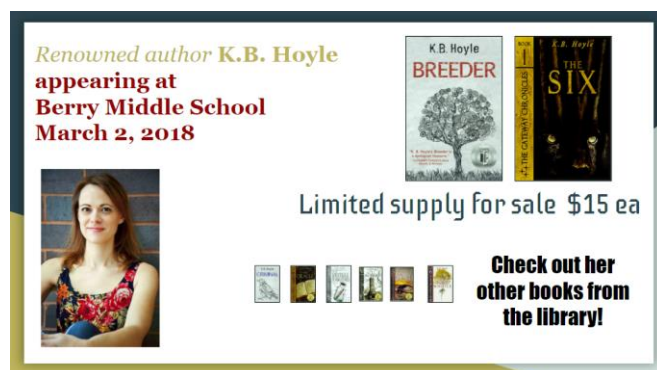
## Summer Reading Program

Parents,

If you are interested in strengthening your child's reading skills/comprehension strategies this summer, please check out this opportunity offered through Auburn University:

<http://auburn.readingprograms.org/8>

For entering 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> graders, the nearest program is at Samford University May 30-June 27<sup>th</sup> from 9-11 AM. The tuition is \$299, and there is a \$39 materials fee. If you sign up early, you may qualify for a \$30 discount on materials. See the webpage above and check on the **FAQS** and **ENROLL** tabs for more information.



Renowned author **K.B. Hoyle**  
appearing at  
**Berry Middle School**  
**March 2, 2018**

Limited supply for sale \$15 ea

Check out her  
other books from  
the library!

The graphic includes a photo of K.B. Hoyle, book covers for 'BREEDER' and 'SIX', and a row of small book icons.

## Course Selection Form

### ***Important Upcoming 9th Grade Course Selection and Transition to Spain Park High School:***

Upcoming 9th grade course selection forms will be due to team math teachers on **Friday, February 23, 2018**.

**All Academy applications are due on Monday February 26.** Academy application can be accessed on the SPHS Web site or Mr. Aufdemorte's Google Classroom (Code 38coyjh).

## Pink Shirt Day

On February 28<sup>th</sup>, Berry Middle School will join EVERY school in Hoover for a Pink Shirt Day. You can help bring awareness to bully prevention by purchasing a t-shirt on Thursday mornings outside the lunchroom for \$5. Checks should be made out to Promo ID.



## Free Help with Tax Prep

You don't have to pay to have your taxes done and can either visit the **United Way** building or complete your taxes online at [www.unitedway.org/myfreetaxes](http://www.unitedway.org/myfreetaxes). If you do not live close to the United Way offices, you are also welcome to visit <https://www.irs.gov/individuals/free-tax-return-preparation-for-you-by-volunteers> to find other free, IRS certified tax preparers.

## Volunteer Opportunities

The Birmingham Zoo has volunteer opportunities for teens 13 and older. For more information visit <https://www.birminghamzoo.com/get-involved/volunteer/teen-volunteer-opportunities/>.

The Birmingham McWane Center has volunteer opportunities for teens 14 and older. Visit <http://www.mcwane.org/join/volunteer/teen-program/> for more information.

# SPORTS & CLUBS

## Berry Sparklers Win State Hip Hop Competition

WE WON!! Congratulations to the Berry Sparklers!! The girls won 1st place at the Bama Spirit State Championship on February 17<sup>th</sup>! Mrs. Lee said, "I am so proud of these girls!! They represented Berry so well. And to see their faces when they heard their name was awesome!!" Thank you to all that have always supported us!!



## Dance Team

An informational meeting will take place Thursday, March 8th at 6 pm in the cafeteria. This meeting is mandatory. You will receive important information about clinic and tryouts for the 2018-19 season. A parent or guardian must attend.

Dance clinic and tryouts will be held April 9th-12th after school and tryouts will be April 13th after school.

Please email Ms. Lee if you have any questions @ [blee@hoover.k12.al.us](mailto:blee@hoover.k12.al.us)

## Berry Softball Tops Oak Mountain

Please congratulate the Berry Softball team on their 8-6 win against the Oak Mountain Eagles. The Lady Jags had multiple hits, and played very well on defense. We appreciated all the support from the Jaguar fans who attended the game.! We play this weekend in Alabaster on Friday evening 6 and 7:30 pm, then again Saturday afternoon at 11 and 12:30.

## Spirit Club

The next Spirit Club meeting will be Monday, March 5 after school until 4:30 in room 212. Please see Mrs. Romero if you have any questions. It's not too late to sign up, so if you are interested in joining us please get a parent form in room 212.  
Go Jags!

## Football Parent Meeting

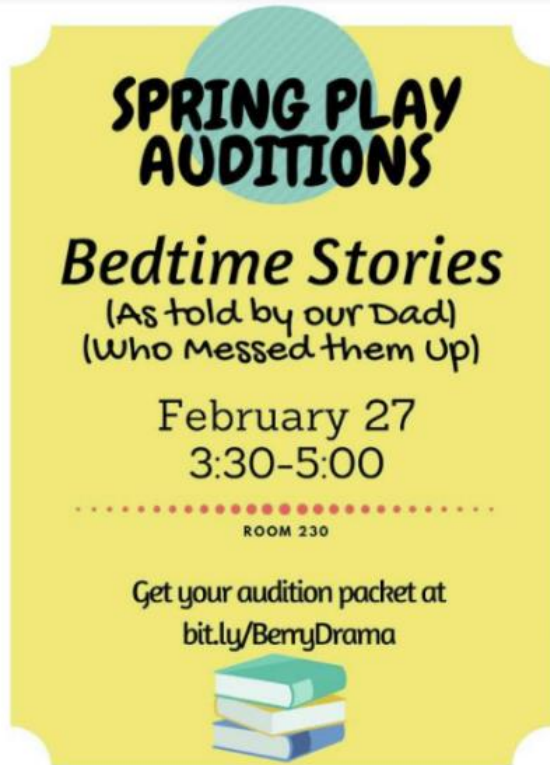
On Monday March 5th at 6:30 in the Competition Gym, there will be a football parent meeting for all the parents of 6th and 7th grade students that are interested in playing football at Berry next year.

## Metro South Outdoor Track & Field 2018

### Weekday Meet Schedule:

March 6th @ Hewitt-Trussville High School  
March 13th @ Spain Park High School  
March 22nd @ Oak Mtn. Heardmont Park  
April 3rd @ Vestavia High School  
April 10th Bye Week For Berry  
April 17th @ Hoover High School  
April 23rd Metro Championship @ Mtn. Brook  
April 24th Rain Date Metro Championship @ Mtn. Brook

## Theater News



boys' classes on Tuesday, 2/20 and with the girls' classes on Tuesday, 3/13. The goal of this program is to encourage students to set clear life goals and to make healthy decisions that will build positive self-esteem.

If you **do not** wish for your child to participate please sign and have your child return the SAFE letter (see link below) to their physical education teacher no later than Monday, 2/19. If you would like more information you may contact S.A.F.E. Inc. at: Renee Williams @ [wait4it.renee@gmail.com](mailto:wait4it.renee@gmail.com) Or check their website @ [sexandfamilyeducation.org](http://sexandfamilyeducation.org)

[SAFE letter.doc](#)

## I Am a Witness – Teen Bullying Prevention

The *I Am a Witness* online campaign aims to put an end to bullying by encouraging witnesses to speak up and to stand up for someone in need. Check out this website for tips, videos and resources:

<http://iwitnessbullying.org/>

## PROGRAMS & LESSONS

### S.A.F.E Inc.

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents:** S.A.F.E. Inc. is coming to Berry Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> grade Physical Education Classes. They will be with the



# BERRY POLICIES & PROCEDURES

## Protect Your Chromebook

In order to prevent breaks, please consider taking the following precautions to keep chromebooks in good condition:

- Get a chromebook case that stays on the device at all times.
- Only add educational extensions recommended by teachers.
- Don't keep your chromebook in your backpack. It can be cracked by the weight of other books or by handling the backpack too roughly.
- Avoid using the chromebook while walking, and don't leave them on the floor.
- Avoid storing the chromebook in lockers unless necessary.
- Treat them as the fragile objects they are – be careful!

### ***If your chromebook still needs repair:***

1. Chromebooks needing repair should be brought to the library.
2. When chromebooks return to Berry, they will be stored in the 7th grade office. They will be delivered to students ASAP.
3. If a student owes a fee for a repair, they may receive a fee slip rather than a chromebook. **However, they may now pay at Berry!** Please send any students wanting to make payments with cash or checks to the 7th grade office. They will receive a receipt to bring home to parents, and I will keep another copy of the receipt for our records. Parents may also pay online at <https://secure4.myschoolfees.com>.
4. Payments made online with a Mastercard or Discover or in person in cash will ensure chromebook delivery in a day or two. Payments by check online will have

to clear the bank before the chromebook can be returned to the student. This could take up to 10 days - a long time when a kid needs a chromebook! Paper checks brought to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade office must include a phone number, driver's license number, and the student's name.

### **New Instructions for paying online:**

1. Go to <https://secure4.myschoolfees.com/>
2. Log in using the e-mail and password you set up during registration.
3. Select the "Student Items" tab.
4. Select "Show Student Fees" on the **Berry Middle School account** for your child. **Do not use IT account.**
5. Select the chromebook fee.
6. Click on "add to cart"
7. Click on "Checkout."

## News from the Nurse

### **MEDICATIONS**

All medication must be delivered to the school office/health room by an adult. Students are not allowed to carry medication to the health room. **NO EXCEPTIONS**

## Dress Code Reminders

We have had quite a few dress code violations in the last few weeks. As we start a new semester, please help us remind students of the following Hoover City Schools Dress Code policies:

- #4: Leggings/jeggings/tights are **NOT** considered pants and **must be worn with a long dress or skirt.**
- #7: Pants and skirts with holes above the knee are not allowed.
- #8: Shorts, dresses, and skirts must be hemmed and **not shorter than mid-thigh when student is seated.** Shorts that are torn, in disrepair, or spandex are not allowed.

## **New Attendance Procedures!!**

A new e-mail address has been created to receive all attendance notifications. This includes parent and doctor notes, check out/in information, and any questions or concerns about your student's attendance. Please send correspondence of this type to: [bmsattendance@hoover.k12.al.us](mailto:bmsattendance@hoover.k12.al.us)

## **Morning Carpool Procedures**

Parents, please help us to make morning carpool drop-off safer by:

- Making sure your child is ready to exit the car before pulling up to BMS
- Pulling up to the front of the line to drop off your child
- Refraining from driving around other cars taking too long – this creates a dangerous situation for any students, parents, and teachers attempting to cross the parking lot to enter the building

\*\*The Hoover Board of Education offers [Equal Educational and Employment Opportunities](#). We are committed to ensuring electronically distributed information is accessible to individuals with disabilities. If you have a disability or face any barriers accessing content and need assistance, please contact (205) 439-1000. [Download Adobe Acrobat PDF Reader](#).