

Bryant Bulletin

March 27, 2019

Staff Spotlight— Mrs. McKnight



Mrs. McKnight is one of our incredible 3rd grade math/science teachers! Mrs. McKnight has a Bachelor's degree from Ball State University. This is Mrs. McKnight's 30th year teaching third grade. Mrs. McKnight works in education because she loves making learning fun and helping students grow. She loves watching her students' faces light up when they learn something new! Mrs. McKnight shared her favorite moment in education, "Life science is my passion, and all the moments I get to share and inspire students to love nature are my favorite moments. When the kids get excited about a decomposing apple or tell me they saw 'good rich dark soil' somewhere my heart explodes!" Outside of school, Mrs. McKnight loves gardening and reading. Mrs. McKnight shared how she helps foster kindness and care at Bryant, "I try to bring my passions for nature inside my classroom. We watch caterpillars turn into butterflies, we turn a tiny seed into a tomato plant and watch it get red ripe tomatoes. If the students connect with these living things and feel that connection in their heart for tomatoes and caterpillars it will help them be kinder gentler people."

Dr. Rhodes' Weekly Message

I hope everyone is enjoying the nice weather we have been having. I forgot what nice sunny days were like and I know our kids did too. Please see below for important information!!

Autism Awareness: Currently, one in 68 children (this number can vary) is diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) with prevalence continuing to rise. More than likely, your BES student interacts with a student diagnosed with autism on a daily basis. Since April is Autism Awareness Month, I wanted to share information regarding autism with our Bryant community. This short [one page article](#) will give you some tools to help educate your own children about autism. I am also sharing the [CDC website](#) which provides a plethora of information about Autism Spectrum Disorder and user tools such as a [milestone tracker app](#) to use with infants and toddlers. This app and others like it are helpful because early autism intervention can greatly improve a child's development. I hope you find these tools helpful for your family.

Kindness Crew Challenge: What kind things have you done this week?

Important Medical Note: Recently a loose Concerta pill (ADHD medication) was found in our gym. When students are given medication at school, Nurse Osbourne checks to make sure the medication has been taken. If your child takes any type of medication, please talk with them about the importance of taking their medication regularly and on-time. If students are found with loose medication, such as Concerta, a class II controlled substance, disciplinary actions will be taken which exceed a phone call, behavior conference, or Friday detention. Thanks for helping make our school safe. If your child needs to take any medication at school, please contact Nurse Osbourne directly at ChristilynnJPriceOsbourne@katyisd.org or 281-234-4326.

Car Rider Line: Please make sure you are not blocking anyone's driveway as you wait in the car rider line which wraps into the surrounding neighborhood. This has happened on 3/26 and 3/27. In the near future, we will begin practicing

double stacking in which we will have two rows of vehicles in our stacking lane during dismissal. This is the intention of the stacking lane but we have been able to have a single line while we are a smaller school. Notification for beginning double stacking will be sent out through this newsletter.

For Your Information: I have gotten several questions about classroom requests for next year. In April I will open a two week window in which you can send me an email describing the characteristics your student needs in a teacher. I will then take those characteristics and match your student with a teacher who is the closest match. Please know, I do not take requests for specific teachers. In fact, if there is a request for a specific teacher, I will not be able to honor it and your child will be placed with another teacher. Be on the lookout in April in this section of the newsletter for more details.

Reminder: If arriving to school after 8:20am, any student entering the building must be accompanied by an adult. The adult must present their ID to gain access to the building.

You're Invited: Have you volunteered for Bryant this year? Whether you have volunteered in the Watch D.O.G.S. Program, cut lamination out from home, volunteered for an event, or are in the work room every day, the BES Staff wants to honor you. YOU help every child learn and grow at Bryant Elementary. Our appreciation brunch will be held on April 26th from 10-11:30am in our LGI room. Please RSVP on or before 4/18 by [clicking here](#)

Congratulations: Our PTA is happy to announce our Officers for the 2019-2020 school year!! President-Kirsten Vasquez; President Elect-Kathalyn Garza; VP Membership-Bobbi Jo Watson; VP Fund Raising-Jackie Overton; VP Volunteers-Christina Rannigan; VP Family Engagement- Meredith Urban; Secretary-April Simmons; Treasurer-Sarah Owens. Thank you to these amazing volunteers who will keep our PTA running next year!!

From the Counselor:

This month our Core Value is **HOPE**. Hope means believing that something good can come out of something bad. It's like the quote from Elie Weasel, "Just as man cannot live without dreams, he cannot live without hope. If dreams reflect the past, hope summons the future."

Please help us kick off this month's trait by wearing **purple** on **Wednesday, April 3, 2019**. Below are some great activities that you can do to foster hope in your children:

- Make a list of something you would like to see happen by the end of the school year.
- Write down a hope or dream you have for when you become a teenager.
- Write down another hope or dream you have for when you become an adult.
- Who is someone that you know who is a hopeful person? What are some things that they do or say that suggest they have hope?

BE IT: This month, volunteer at your nearest Red Cross. This nonprofit organization helps individuals and families affected by disasters such as fires and hurricanes. There are many ways to volunteer including donating blood or assisting with a blood drive, installing free smoke alarms and helping out after a disaster strikes. Your family will not only serve as a source of hope for people, but you may also witness hope in the people that you serve.

Please contact me if you would like additional resources.

Penny Flores
BES Counselor
penelopewflores@katyisd.org

Event Calendar

Tuesday, April 2

Kindergarten Orientation, 5:30-7pm, enter through front door. (Please spread the word about this event to capture any parent who may not already have a Bryant Bengal but has a Kindergartner who will start next year!!)

Wednesday, April 3

Core Essentials Kickoff- wear purple for Hope

Friday, April 5

Early Dismissal- 12:40pm

Monday, April 8 – Friday, April 12

STAAR Testing- CLOSED CAMPUS, No Visitors (not even for lunch times or to volunteer)

Friday, April 12

PTA Movie Night, 6-7:30pm (Food Trucks ready at 5:30pm)

Wednesday, April 17

Kindergarten Cap and Gown Pictures (each child will receive a picture package. You can purchase any of the pictures or return the pictures. There are no retakes or makeups for Kindergarten Cap and Gown Pictures).

Thursday, April 18

Pre-Registration for incoming Kindergarten and new incoming 1st graders, 9-11am & 1-3pm. (Paperwork is completed through district website prior to April 17).

Friday, April 19

Student and Staff Holiday

Wednesday, April 24

College Shirt Day

Thursday, April 25

Progress Reports Go Home

Friday, April 26

Volunteer Appreciation Brunch, 10-11:30am, LGI Room

Tuesday, April 30

Parenting in the Digital Age, 6-7pm, Cell phones, social media, gaming and YouTube. Kids have a lot of opportunities as well as distractions right at their fingertips. Find out more about the tools attracting our children's attention and learn some tips for managing the technology in your household. [This is an adult only educational class.](#) You will learn apps and other things to avoid or look-out for on your student's device, so we would not want kids present. A Flyer and RSVP will come home in April.

Wednesday, May 1

Core Essentials

Nutty Scientist after School

Tuesday, May 7

CAT Meeting in the LGI, 4pm

Monday, May 13 – Friday, May 16

STAAR Testing- CLOSED CAMPUS, No Visitors (not even for lunch times)

Wednesday, May 22

College Shirts

Thursday, May 23

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL-Early Dismissal, 12:40PM

Report Cards Go Home

Home to School Connection®

ACTIVITY CORNER

Structural engineering

Your child will have fun exploring engineering with homemade building blocks. Share these steps.

1. Make triangle blocks

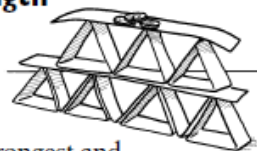
Let him cut poster board, file folders, or index cards into 24 strips, each about 1" x 5". Then, have him fold each strip into thirds, bend it into a triangle, and tape the ends together. (*Note: He should save a few unfolded strips to use for building.*)

2. Build a structure

Encourage your youngster to experiment with different designs. He can fit triangles together into rows with every other block pointing up, lay an unfolded strip on top, and continue alternating layers. Perhaps he'll make the rows all the same length or make them different lengths.

3. Test strength

Ask your child to check each structure to see which



design is the strongest and most stable. He could put a strip of paper on top and add pennies, counting as he goes, until the structure topples. Which arrangement of blocks holds the most pennies?♥

Information from the PTA

Family Movie Night

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

April 12th

5:30PM - Food Trucks Open  6:00PM - Movie Begins

Lights, Camera, Action!

Please join us for our 2nd Annual Family Movie Night on the lawn. The Cane Island big-screen movie truck will be set up in the front parking lot. The movie will begin at 6pm. Bring your lawn chairs, or picnic blankets. Enjoy dinner from a variety of food trucks (proceeds will help our 5th grade party fund). We hope to see you there!



Food Trucks:

Bayou City Eats
Volcano Splash
That's My Dog



Belly Wish (BBQ Tacos & Tinga Tacos)
*A % of proceeds will benefit our 5th Grade
Graduation Party Fund.*

All children must be accompanied by an adult for the duration of the event.

QUESTIONS: Tabitha Garcia bryantptaengagement@gmail.com