

# Bryant Bulletin

January 9, 2019



## Staff Spotlight—Mrs. Crawford

Mrs. Crawford is one of our wonderful 1<sup>st</sup> grade teachers! Mrs. Crawford graduated from the University of Houston and this is her 15<sup>th</sup> year in education. Mrs. Crawford works in education because she wants to inspire little ones to fall in love with learning and to work hard to achieve success. We asked Mrs. Crawford to share what she loves about education and one of her favorite moments in education, "I love to watch the children grow socially, emotionally, and academically. I love that I am a part of the early foundation for our little ones' educational career and that I get to pour myself into the next generation through education. My favorite moments in education are celebrating my students' achievements—no matter how big or small!" Outside of school, Mrs. Crawford enjoys spending time with family and friends. She also loves reading, shopping, fashion, and fitness. Mrs. Crawford shared how she helps foster kindness and care at Bryant, "I model kindness through my actions. I try to be the adult that I want my students to grow into. Also, I teach manners and the importance of having integrity and being respectful."

## *Dr. Rhodes' Weekly Message*

We are very excited to be back for the second semester. Lots of fun learning and activities await!! I hope you and your families had a holiday season full of friends and family. As I spent time with my family the past two weeks I began to reflect about the importance of friends, family, and relationships. As a workaholic, I hardly make time for any of those things. When I stopped and truly reflected I realized this past semester there were months at a time I did not tell Siri to call my mom...instead we communicated through texts. My own mother, who I see once a year, didn't get a call for two months...just texts...and she won't call me because she is afraid she is interrupting work (even at 9pm) because she knows how important my work is to me. This really hit me hard and made me take a step back and reevaluate my priorities. I always tell our Bryant staff that family comes first. However, I have not been practicing what I preach. At our staff meeting on Monday, I spoke about this to all staff members. I reminded them that while the demands of teaching do require many hours outside of 7:55-3:55, I need them to put their own families and relationships first in their lives. I personally am going to have a couple of "unplugged nights" in which I do not constantly check email. I told our staff that we all need to find a balance between our home and work lives. I have found that one of the major stressors each staff member has in common is email pressure. I reminded staff that we have a 24-48 hour response window. Generally I expect a response within 24 hours but sometimes it may take 48. I also told the staff that I wanted them to also try some "unplugged nights" in which they can be fully present for family/friends/relationships. I know many of you fall into this same situation within your own work lives. If you do, please join us in trying to find that healthy balance. Maybe try some "unplugged nights" as well. For me personally, this will be a big change and I am going to have to force myself to do it, but I am going to try very hard and I expect our staff to as well. We never know how long we have, so each day needs to be lived fully and in balance. As we try to find this home/work balance, if an email is missed and not answered within at least 48 hours, please resend the email with a simple, "just want to make sure you got this..." As I have stated since Bryant opened, communication is

key for engagement with our parents and community. Please know this is still my belief. Here's to a happy, healthy, and balanced 2019!!

**Kindness Crew:** Our Kindness Crew Challenges will start up again next week. Thank you for helping us instill kindness in all students.

**New Event Coming Soon:** Mark your calendars! On February 7<sup>th</sup>, our teachers and staff will host a learning night!! Instead of beginning a Math Night or Reading Night, we decided to throw it all together and have a Learning Night in which parents and students can learn and have fun together. We will even have food trucks available for dinner choices. Further info to come, but please mark your calendars!!

**Special Thank You:** January is School Board Appreciation Month. We thank our Board of Trustees for all they do to help make amazing things happen in classrooms!

## *Event Calendar*

### **Friday, January 11**

\*Spirit Store During Grade Level Lunches (Please place money to be spent on Spirit Store in a ziplock bag with your child's name, grade level, and Teacher written on the outside. Please label the bag as "Spirit Store Money.")

\*Report Cards Go Home

### **Tuesday, January 15**

Campus Advisory Team (CAT) Meeting, 4pm, LGI

### **Monday, January 21**

Student Holiday, Martin Luther King Jr. Day

### **Thursday, January 24**

Coffee with the Principal @9am, LGI

### **Friday, January 25**

100th Day of School

Spirit Store During Grade Level Lunches (Please place money to be spent on Spirit Store in a ziplock bag with your child's name, grade level, and Teacher written on the outside. Please label the bag as "Spirit Store Money.")

### **Wednesday, January 30**

College Shirt Day

District Family Night, No Homework Assigned.

### **Monday, February 4 – Friday, February 8**

Book Fair

National School Counseling Week--We LOVE Mrs. Flores!!

### **Wednesday, February 6**

Core Essential Kickoff, wear blue for "service."

**Thursday, February 7**

Family Learning Night, 5-7:30pm

**Tuesday, February 12**

Progress Reports Go Home

**Thursday, February 14**

Friendship Parties

**Friday, February 15**

Early Dismissal, 12:40pm

Sparkle & Spur Ball, 6-7:30pm

## *Office and Other Information*

- Click [HERE](#) for the Bryant Website
- Click [HERE](#) for Katy ISD Home Access Center (HAC). Register to gain access to grades, e-news, etc.

### *Follow us via social media:*

Facebook= [Bryant Elementary](#)

Twitter= [@BryantElem](#) [#bengalpride](#)

### *After School Programs:*

We are excited that **KidBlitz After School Chess Program** will be offering an after-school program for any level chess player (beginner to advanced) from February 6<sup>th</sup>- April 16<sup>th</sup>. Please [click here](#) for more information about this new opportunity. Students of any level can register for this course.

### *From the District:*

Proclamation 2019 includes instructional materials for K-5 English Language Arts and Spanish Language Arts, Grades 6-8 English Language Arts, Grades 7-8 English Learners Language Arts, and Personal Financial Literacy. These materials will be implemented during the 2019- 2020 school year. Instructional materials under consideration will be on display during business hours (8:00AM-4:00PM) for parent and community input at the Education Support Complex from January 14-25, 2019. In addition, instructional materials will be available for review from 5:00PM to 8:00PM on Tuesday, January 15, 2019 and Thursday, January 24, 2019.

# Home to School Connection

## ACTIVITY CORNER

### Frosty science

With this experiment, your child can see frost and learn why people sprinkle salt on icy sidewalks and roads.

**How?** Have your youngster rinse out two empty soup cans, remove the labels, and fill each can halfway with ice. She should stir  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup salt into just one can and set both cans aside.



**What happens?** After 10 minutes, she'll notice frost on the "salty can" and water on the other one.

**Why?** Salt lowers the melting point of the ice, so the can with salt got colder than the other can. When water in the air condensed onto the cans, it froze into frost on the one with salt. That's why salt is useful in winter—it melts snow and ice, making it safer to walk or drive.♥

## Information from the PTA

### **Yearbooks:**

Yearbooks for the 2018-2019 school year are available to purchase by [clicking here](#).

### **Yearbook App – Upload Your Pictures:**

Our yearbook chair would like to implement a new program this year called "Replay It," to help with uploading school pictures for our yearbook. We would greatly appreciate it if you could download the app and upload photos throughout the year. It is quite simple to do and much easier than emailing photos to the yearbook volunteers. Please visit the link below to find the app. You will simply download it, search for Bryant Elementary School, and create an account. Thank you in advance for your help! If you have any questions, please contact Robin Marcoulier at [bryantptayearbook@gmail.com](mailto:bryantptayearbook@gmail.com).

For an Apple device [click here](#).

For an Android device [click here](#).