

# Bryant Bulletin

September 19, 2018



## Staff Spotlight— Mrs. Jaime Marker

Mrs. Marker is our amazing art teacher and specials team leader! Mrs. Marker graduated from the University of Houston (Go Coogs!) and has been teaching for fourteen years. Mrs. Marker loves to inspire and wants all her students to know they matter in her classroom and in the world. Mrs. Marker loves teaching because every day is a new day with kids! Students bring so much curiosity and excitement to art class and Mrs. Marker can't help but be inspired by her students' enthusiasm! We asked Mrs. Marker to share one of her favorite moments in education, "Oh goodness! There are too many to think of! I do LOVE when students go home, create something, and bring it back to share. It fills my heart to think

that a project we worked on sparked their passion and they couldn't wait to get home to create!" Outside of school Mrs. Marker loves spending time with family, running, camping and—of course—painting. Mrs. Marker shared how she helps spread care and kindness at Bryant, "I try to model kindness everywhere and always be positive! A big hug, a big smile, and kind words go a LONG way! I also truly believe in giving back and sharing that belief with students. When you give to others in need...you make a change in someone else's life and in your own!"

We are so grateful to have Mrs. Marker at Bryant Elementary!!

## *Dr. Rhodes' Weekly Message*

Last week we discussed the Wildly Important Goal (WIG) of parent engagement. This is different than parent involvement. One way that we will be engaging parents is through a weekly survey. This survey will give each family the opportunity to tell us as a school how we did during the week, offer teacher/staff praise, and give opportunity for suggestions/solutions. By providing more lines of communication we hope to engage families with all members of our school family. The survey will go out through email/text each Friday and the survey will remain open through Sunday at 11:59pm.

**Boosterthon:** The PTA sponsored Boosterthon is here!!! Thank you in advance for supporting the school initiatives of PTA. You can create an account for your student at [www.funrun.com](http://www.funrun.com) by using school registration code 894-178. You will hear about some crazy things over the next two weeks, such as Mrs. O'Leary and I wearing crazy wigs, being silly stringed and ultimately slimed, if we reach our goal. The entire school also has the opportunity to earn a pajama and hat day as well as an extra recess with popsicle party!!

**Notice:** The Boosterthon Obstacle Course will take place next Thursday (9/27). We will be holding the event in the gym and cafeteria. Because we need to use the cafeteria space, students who buy lunch through our cafeteria on 9/27 will receive a sack lunch. The menu for 9/27 includes: Chicken Patty Sandwich or Cheese Quesadilla, raisins, and choice of raisins, fresh broccoli florets, baby carrots, and choice of milk. This menu is different from the Katy ISD published menu. If your student does not want this lunch, please send a packed lunch from home.

**Notice:** Since the cafeteria will be in use next Thursday (9/27), we will not host lunch visitors for the day. Grade levels will pick a place for lunch such as outside, in the Bengal Den, or in classrooms. Parents are welcome to come to the Boosterthon event during their child's Specials time.

**FYI:** Dads who participate in the Watch D.O.G.S. program this year will need to be members of PTA. Due to liability issues and the fact that Watch D.O.G.S. is sponsored by PTA, this is necessary. We realize this is a change from last year but PTA learned that this is best practice for school PTAs. Apologies for any inconvenience. The cost of membership is \$10. Dads must register before signing up for dates to be Watch D.O.G.S.

**Announcement:** Congratulations to Kindergarten for winning the attendance challenge AGAIN for last week. Kindergarten only had 30 absences last week. Way to go Kinder!!

## *Event Calendar*

### **Tuesday, September 18- Thursday, September 27**

PTA Boosterthon Fundraising Program

### **Wednesday, September 19**

Progress Reports sent home

### **Thursday, September 20**

Fall Picture Day

Watch D.O.G.S. Orientation, 6:00pm in the gym (PTA Membership required)

### **Monday, September 24**

Destination Imagination Informational Meeting, 6:00pm-7:00pm in the LGI

### **Tuesday, September 25**

Campus Advisory Team (CAT) Meeting, 4:00pm in the LGI

### **Wednesday, September 26**

College Shirt Day

### **Thursday, September 27**

Boosterthon Obstacle Course during specials times (see info above)

### **Monday, October 8**

Early Dismissal, 12:40pm

### **Tuesday, October 9**

Coffee with the Principal, 9:00am

### **Thursday, October 11**

Dinosaur George travelling museum brought to all students by the Bryant PTA!! This event will include a daytime event for students and an evening event for your whole family!! [See below for details.](#)

# 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](#)

## *From the District:*

### **Why Wait?**

**Become a KEYS Mentor and  
change the life of a student on the brink of success.**

Join us for the KEYS Kickoff  
an informational meeting about mentoring in Katy ISD

September 21, 2018

8-9:30 a.m.

The Merrell Center

[RVSP Here](#)

[Apply to be a mentor](#)

[Katy ISD Partners in Education](#)

Bringing the Community into the Classroom

## *From Our GT Teacher:*

### **Gifted and Talented Screening for Current Fifth Grade Students**

Students in fifth grade **who are not currently identified** for the elementary Challenge program have the opportunity to be screened for Gifted and Talented Program with service to begin in the fall of sixth grade. Secondary gifted program options are available in English, reading, mathematics, science, and social studies. Students may be screened in any or all of these content areas.

Letters to 5th Grade Parents have been sent home. Parents interested in referring their child for secondary Gifted and Talented screening need to complete a Secondary Parent Checklist and return to the elementary campus by September 20.

Screening will occur during the months of October through December. Parents will be notified of the placement decision by U.S. mail in January.

Parents may obtain a Parent Checklist from the front desk, classroom teacher, or online by [clicking here](#). Please make sure you are completing the checklist for Secondary screening and not the Elementary form.

## **Gifted and Talented Screening for Kindergarten Students**

Information regarding screening of kindergarten students for the gifted and talented program will be sent home with kinder students beginning the week of September 10-14. Kindergarten parents who would like to refer their children for screening must return the Kindergarten Parent Checklist to their campus by **October 5, 2018**. There is a FAQ page and video on the Katy ISD GT/Advanced Academics website for more information about kindergarten screening that can be accessed by [clicking here](#).

### ***From Our Destination Imagination Sponsor:***

**DESTINATION IMAGINATION (DI)**--Calling all kids in grades 1-5!!!! DI groups forming soon!!

**Who:** Students and families interested in Destination Imagination (DI)

**What:** Informational meeting about DI

**When:** Monday, **September 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:00 PM**

**Where:** Bryant LGI

**Why:** To learn more about DI and hopefully forming and joining a DI team!!!

**Contact person:** Jodi Foreman- [jolindagforeman@katyisd.org](mailto:jolindagforeman@katyisd.org)

**What is DI?** Destination imagination is the world's largest creative problem-solving program for kids. It is a community- based, school- friendly program that builds participant's creativity, problem solving ability, and teamwork in enjoyable and meaningful ways. This year every state in the US and 42 countries will have teams. Competitions begin at the local level and proceed to state and national level competitions. [Click here](#) for more information.

## ***Home to School Connection***



### **A reading habit**

**Q:** *This year, my son has a daily homework assignment to read for 20 minutes. What should we do to make sure this happens?*

**A:** Reading every day is one of the best ways for a child to become a strong reader, and it's great that you're eager to help.

Some evenings, you could invite him to read to you. He'll practice reading, and you'll get to hear how he's doing. On other nights, hold family reading time where everyone quietly reads their own books, newspapers, or magazines. Your son might also enjoy reading aloud to younger siblings.

Here's another suggestion: If you normally read him a bedtime story, try ending your nightly routine by reading one chapter aloud. Does he want to know what will happen next? He can continue reading on his own for 20 minutes to find out!♥



# *Information from the PTA*

## ***Teacher Recess and Lunch Duty Coverage:***

We are searching for our super star volunteers to **help cover lunch and recess duties** for teachers, once a month. Last year, the teachers loved when we took over their lunch and recess duties for Teacher Appreciation, so we decided to bring it back this year. To be part of this "gift of time" all you have to do is [sign up here](#), get to the school 10-15 minutes early to Raptor in at the front (make sure you have your IDs ready) and either help students in the cafeteria or monitor recess. Feel free to email if you have any questions: [bryantptavolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:bryantptavolunteers@gmail.com)

## ***Boosterthon Fun Run – September 27***

Yesterday we held our Pep Rally for this year's Boosterthon and hope you can help us reach our fundraising goal of \$18,000. The Boosterthon Student Star video starring your child is the EASIEST and BEST way to ask for a FunRun pledge. Log into FUNRUN.COM, click "Create Student Star Video" button, add a photo of your child, and SHARE it via email and social media! All pledges and payments are made online. Thank you for your support for our school!

## ***Dinosaur George – October 11***

On Thursday, October 11, our Bryant Gymnasium will become a traveling natural history museum courtesy of Dinosaur George. There will be a tour and scavenger hunt for each of our students, with an opportunity for families to visit this incredible exhibit after school from 4:30-6:30pm. Please save the date for this wonderful event that will be held at our own school.

## ***Order a Yearbook Now***

Yearbooks for the 2018-2019 year are now available to pre-order. The cost is \$30.00 until October 26th, with discounts on personalization available. Please [visit this link](#) to place your order.

## ***Box Tops***

HEB has a great promotion with Box Tops this month! Thru Sept 18th, purchase 15 Box Top items and they will give you 100 bonus Box Tops (\$10 free)!! Or purchase 10 Box Top Items and get 60 bonus Box Tops (\$6 free)! All items must be purchased at the same time at HEB. The bonus certificate will print at checkout. Please look at all the products that have Box Tops! The specifics can be found [by clicking here](#).

## ***Website***

Visit the PTA website for up to date information by [clicking here](#).

## ***Facebook***

Check out the [Bryant PTA Facebook page](#) for information, pictures, and other great information.