

# Bryant Bulletin

November 7, 2018



## Staff Spotlight—Ms. Horner

Ms. Horner is one of our awesome 5<sup>th</sup> grade Reading/ELA teachers and one of our 5<sup>th</sup> grade Team Leaders! She has a Bachelor's and Master's degree from West Virginia University. This is Ms. Horner's 19<sup>th</sup> year teaching. She has taught Pre-K, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Ms. Horner grew up in a family of educators and knew from an early age that she wanted to become a teacher. She loves to see the world through the different perspectives of her students. Ms. Horner said the best part of her job is watching her students grow and achieve goals. Ms. Horner shared one of her favorite moments in education, "Seeing a previous student years later and being able to see what they have accomplished is a favorite moment for me. I was

recently contacted by a student I taught 16 years ago in 2nd grade. He has become a successful lawyer and told me that I was always his favorite teacher." Outside of school, since both her children play soccer, you can usually find Ms. Horner on the soccer fields cheering! She also loves all genres of music and loves reading a good book. Ms. Horner shared how she helps create a culture of care and kindness at Bryant, "The best way to promote kindness and caring behaviors in my classroom is to model them. When I show my students what it LOOKS like and SOUNDS like to be kind, there is a far greater chance they will repeat those modeled behaviors. I love our Community Circle time each day where we can share and grow with each other. I strive for my classroom to be a loving, caring environment where students want to be." We are so grateful to have Ms. Horner at Bryant!!

## *Dr. Rhodes' Weekly Message*

Last week I provided you with a Katy ISD Curriculum resource which shows videos of conceptual math being taught. This week I would like to introduce you to <https://math4texas.org>. This is an amazing resource for parents to see what content is covered in each grade level and how the concepts grow from year to year. Once you go to the homepage, look to the top right and you will see "For Parents." Hover above this and grade levels will appear. Click on the grade level of your choice. The big ideas and topics for the grade level will be described. On the left panel, choose a specific topic and click. That topic will then expand into subtopics. Click on the Subtopic and you will be given tips, examples, interactive games and other resources you can use for your own knowledge or to help your student. I just found out about this resource and wanted to share right away.

<<https://math4texas.org> → For Parents → Select Grade → Click on Topic → Click on Subtopic>

**Congratulations:** Congrats to Debbie Ellis who has been identified as an outstanding educator and nominated for the 2019 H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards. Someone in our community recognized Mrs. Ellis as an outstanding educator and took their time to nominate Debbie. Great Job Debbie!

**Volunteers Needed:** This Friday is our November lunch and recess duty coverage for our amazing teachers. Volunteers help campus administrators supervise lunch and recess so the entire grade level of teachers can have an hour for lunch and fellowship. 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.

**Announcement:** Congratulations to Kindergarten *again* for winning the attendance challenge last week. The Kinder attendance rate was up from the week before at 97.16%!! Each Kinder student received five Bengal Bucks.

**Announcement:** This week's kindness challenge is, "include others in what you do." Please talk to your student about how he/she can help include others in a variety of ways at school."

**Announcement:** Congratulations to our Writers of the Month for October! One student from each homeroom received the award for keeping the writing focused on the topic throughout the entire piece. Way to go!

Our campus-wide focus for writing in November and December is organization and structure. To write so our readers can understand, our writing needs to follow a structure, or organizational pattern. Think of this like the bones in our bodies. If we didn't have bones, we would just be blobs. Our structure holds us up and allows us to move in different ways. In writing, structure not only depends on the genre, but it includes how we begin our pieces (leads, introductions, hooks), how we develop the middle, and how we close our piece (endings, conclusions, reflections). When we organize our writing into a structure, our readers are able to follow along and make meaning from it. This focus will be a big one, and we look forward to watching our writers thrive when writing with organization and structure!

**Announcement:** As discussed in our Bryant Bulletin a couple of weeks ago, various safety drills within the school are necessary and important. Please take a moment to read [this letter](#) from Katy ISD Police and the Office of Emergency Management. It discusses training at the elementary level and a link to one video we use to train staff. PLEASE NOTE, we do not show the video to students but you may want to use it as a resource for yourself or to talk to your student. Our campus will be practicing all drills before Thanksgiving Break.

**Thank You:** Thanks to Mr. Steve Flemming, Firefighter/EMT, and BES parent, who recently trained and certified our Bryant START (Simple Triage And Rapid Treatment) Team in [Stop the Bleed](#), an additional safety measure we have taken at Bryant Elementary. You may have recently learned about Stop the Bleed on 60 Minutes this past Sunday. While these are all sensitive topics, it is our reality. Please know that Bryant staff are going above and beyond to be ready for any emergency. Thank you again Mr. Flemming.

## *Event Calendar*

### **Monday, November 5- Friday, November 16**

Student Council Sponsored Toiletry Drive for the Ballard House (learn more below)

### **Thursday, November 8**

\*Book Fair, Library

\*3rd Grade Veteran's Day Program, 6:00pm, Gym

### **Friday, November 9**

\*November Gift of Time, Recess and Lunch Coverage for Teachers. [Sign up here.](#)

\*Book Fair open until 12pm, Library

\*Square 1 Art Orders Due

**Tuesday, November 13**

Class Pictures/Fall Retakes

**Wednesday, November 14**

Wear Blue for Diabetes Awareness

**Friday, November 16**

Thankful Parties, [Click here to Pre-Raptor](#)

No Lunch Visitors

**Monday, November 19 – Friday, November 23**

Thanksgiving Break

**Monday, November 26 – Friday, November 30**

PTA Holiday Shop

**Tuesday, November 27**

Progress Reports Go Home

**Wednesday, November 28**

Family Night, No Homework Assigned

College Shirt Day

**Friday, November 30**

PTA General Board Meeting, 5:00pm

PTA Holiday Shop & Cookies with Santa, 5:30-7:00pm

## *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 Student Council:*

The Bryant Student Council is hosting a toiletry drive for the Ballard House November 5th-16th. They are asking for unused travel sized toiletries. This donation will go to the Ballard House, an organization with a mission to give a place to stay for families and individuals who have family members in the hospital and under extended medical care. These toiletries will help to provide them with items they will need and use during their stay.

Examples of items to donate:

-deodorant, shampoo/conditioner, toothpaste/toothbrushes, bar soap/body wash, lotion, hand sanitizer, small packs of tissues, mouthwash

### *From the District:*

Please [Click Here](#) to access the Katy ISD Bullying Prevention and Intervention webpage.

*Do you know how to recognize bullying behavior? [Click here](#) to learn more.*

### *After School Program:*

After School Katy Robotics Academy is coming to BES for 2018-2019.

We are excited to announce that our 1st-5th graders will have a wonderful opportunity to learn computer programming with LEGO robotics this year! Students will learn computer science and robotics concepts through hands-on experience with LEGO EV3 and WeDo robots.

Registration is first come, first served, and space is limited. To register or find out more information about this amazing program, [click here](#).

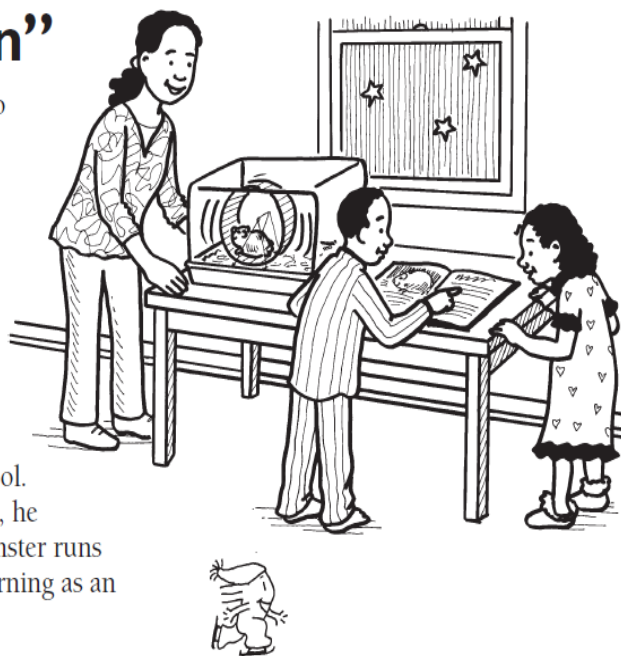
Please note, outside companies rent space at the school and are overseen by the company and its employees. Bryant Staff and Administration are not involved and do not oversee the programs. They have their own method of releasing car riders, etc.

## *Home to School Connection*

### **“I love to learn”**

Children devote more energy to learning when they're motivated. These ideas will boost your youngster's thirst for knowledge.

**Show enthusiasm.** Tell your child what *you* learn. (“I found out that about 90 percent of the world's population lives in the Northern Hemisphere!”) Also, ask him to teach you information he learns in school. If he's studying nocturnal animals, he might explain to you why his hamster runs on its wheel at night. He'll see learning as an



everyday activity for kids *and* grown-ups, and your attitude will be contagious.

**Inspire curiosity.** Express interest when your youngster poses questions. If he asks why we get the hiccups or whether owls really are wise, you could say, “That’s a good question! Let’s find out together.” Then, help him look up the topic in a library book or online. When you discover the answer, encourage him to share it with friends or relatives so they can learn more, too.♥

# *Information from the PTA*

## ***Gift of Time - Lunch and Recess Volunteers:***

We are searching for our super star volunteers to help once a month by covering lunch and recess duties for teachers. November Coverage is on November 9<sup>th</sup>. To be part of this "gift of time" please sign up by [clicking here](#), then get to the school 10-15 minutes early on the 9th to Raptor in at the front (make sure you have your IDs ready) and either help students in the cafeteria or monitor recess. If you have any questions, please email Kathalyn Garza, VP of Volunteers at [bryantptavolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:bryantptavolunteers@gmail.com).

## ***Spirit Store Volunteers:***

We are so excited to announce our 2018-2019 Spirit Store opening days! Your interest in helping with these days is very much appreciated. [Click here](#) to sign up!

## ***Parents:***

You are invited to join us for our upcoming Thankful Parties on **Friday, November 16th**.

**4th and 5th:** 11:30 am - 12:15 pm

**2nd and 3rd:** 1:00 pm - 1:45 pm

**Kinder and 1st:** 2:15 pm - 3:00 pm

Please use the pre-raptor sign up link below to avoid the line in the front office! Only two visitors per child.

[Click here to Pre-Raptor](#)

Thanks,  
Room Moms

## ***Tip Top Holiday Shop:***

Save the dates: Tip Top Holiday Shop is coming to Bryant the week of November 26-30. On November 30th, we'll have a family event and shopping in the evening after school. Stay tuned for more details.

## ***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).

### **Not sure which one you want to use?**

Apple: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/replayit/id552387021?mt=8>

Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.replayit>

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

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