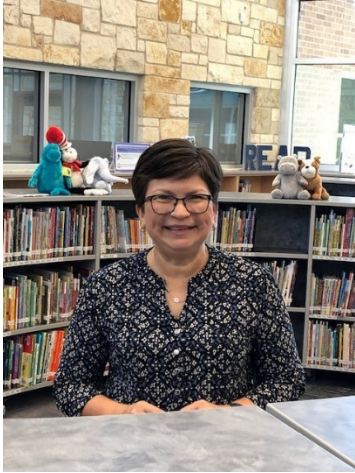


# Bryant Bulletin

January 29, 2020

## Staff Spotlight— Mrs. Casillas



Mrs. Casillas is our super fabulous Bryant Librarian. She has her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Texas-Permian Basin and her Masters of Library Science from the University of North Texas. She has been in education for 22 years with 15 of those years as a librarian. Mrs. Casillas' goal as a librarian is to make enough of an impact on student's lives that they have fond memories of their elementary library when they grow up. She wants them to remember the library as a fun place to read, learn, and try new things. As the school librarian, she has the opportunity to work with all the students at Bryant. Mrs. Casillas says she enjoys getting to know them, talk books with them, and watch them grow. She states, "I like walking through the rows of shelves in the library with students recommending books and the moment when they find a book that is exciting – well, it's just priceless!" One of her favorite moments in education was just last year. She was part of a team that was awarded a grant for a 3D printer. She says this year the

3D Innovators Club has been meeting before school to learn the design process and to print their designs on the 3D printer and it has been amazing! Outside of school, Mrs. Casillas says she, of course, loves to read and she enjoys crafting. Mrs. Casillas helps to create a culture of care and kindness at Bryant by creating a welcoming environment in the library for the entire school and community.

## *Dr. Rhodes' Weekly Message*

We are having a great week at Bryant and our students are spreading extra kindness for the Great Kindness Challenge. I have seen some of you posting your students completing kind acts on Twitter. [Click here](#) to check out what kids and campuses all over the country are doing during the #GreatKindnessChallenge this week!

We are sad to wish our Registrar, Michelle Martinez, farewell. Mrs. Martinez is pursuing a career path in the HR world and we wish her well. Her last day with us will be this Friday. We hope to have a replacement beginning February 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Teacher of the Year:** Congratulations to Mrs. Jennifer Morgan, Kindergarten Team Leader and Teacher. Mrs. Morgan has been named Teacher of the Year for the 2019-2020 school year and will be considered for District Teacher of the Year this semester. Congratulations Mrs. Morgan!!

**Congratulations:** Our 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Team of Teachers are huge competitors!! Our teachers have been competing in a friendly game of Connect-Four. When a teacher uses a new teaching strategy from a given list, he or she receives a color coded Connect-Four game piece. Teachers on a team work together to connect four pieces!! Our 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teachers made SIX Connect Four's during our first game. Thank you to Ms. Wilkinson, Ms. Bolt, Mrs. Krenek, Ms. Price, Mr. Goshorn, Mrs. Prochnow, Mrs. Nelson, and Mrs. Hibler for receiving the most Connect-Fours. Thanks to so many of our teachers for trying lots of new teaching strategies to reach the needs of all our students! Follow along on twitter @BryantElem or #bengalpride

**Digital Citizenship Week:** This week is also Digital Citizenship Week! Our school has had intentional conversations regarding Media Balance. We have read student suggestions each day on the morning announcements. Some of these include setting a specific time you can use digital devices, spend time playing with friends (no video games), taking time to play with a pet, and no devices at the dinner table. Technology is a huge part of our world and our students are immersed in it. Finding Media Balance is important for students and adults. Here are a few resources for you: [How to Make a Media Use Plan and Media Use Tips for Families](#) and [Be a Role Model: Find a Healthy Balance with Media and Technology](#)

**Journeys:** Now that we are in our 3<sup>rd</sup> year, our photography company, StrawBridge, is able to create Journeys packages. If your student has been enrolled at Bryant for the full three years and been photographed each fall, you will be receiving a picture package that shows each year's fall picture chronologically. Current 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who have been at Bryant all three years will come home with the picture package in *today's* take home folder. If your student is PK, K, or 1<sup>st</sup>, and was photographed this fall, they will come home with a seasonal picture package for the month of February. If you receive a package and want to keep any of the pictures, directions will be in the envelope. If you receive pictures and do not want to purchase any, please return to school in your child's take home folder. We are excited to be able to offer these keepsakes for parents who would like them.

**Food & Toiletry Drive:** Student Council is holding a food and toiletry drive this week as part of our Great Kindness Week Challenge. Our local food banks are typically short on supplies in the New Year due to all the giving in December. If your family is able to donate, this is another way for your student to show kindness. [Click here](#) for more information.

**Friendship Parties:** Our PTA will hold Friendship Parties on February 13<sup>th</sup> for each grade level. The format will be similar to our Thankful Parties. If you would like to attend the Friendship Party, please [click here](#) to Pre-Raptor (please read all details on the webpage). If you have not visited the school and been raptured this year, you will not be able to Pre-Raptor electronically. If this is the case, drop by any time before the party day and your license can be scanned into the system so that you can Pre-Raptor before the Friendship Parties. In order to have successful parties, our PTA needs lots of volunteers. If you are coming for your own child's party, please consider staying for a block of time and helping at a station for other grade levels. PTA will publish a sign-up with more information in the near future.

### *From Mrs. Flores, School Counselor:*

**This Week's Character Challenge:** Participate in the Great Kindness Challenge. Students can report the acts of kindness they have accomplished. It's only Wednesday and we are seeing kids spreading kindness through the building and hearing about kind acts they are completing at home! Keep up the good work! There is also a Great Kindness Challenge- Home Edition. [Read more about it here.](#)

Please help us kick off our next character trait, Responsibility, by wearing **orange** on Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>. This month students will be having conversations and activities that help develop and apply Responsibility in their daily lives! As we reintroduce Responsibility, we hope to instill new ideas and skills students will be able to apply and utilize in school and at home. We are using the following definition for **Responsibility**: to take action and understand how our choices affect others, ourselves, and the world. Responsibility is a skill that will change over time as students take on more and more responsibilities in their lives. If you are looking for ways to extend this trait at home as well, check out our [K-2 resource \(en Espanol\)](#) and [3-5 resource \(en Espanol\)](#). For more information, contact Penny Flores, School Counselor, at [penelopewflores@katyisd.org](mailto:penelopewflores@katyisd.org)

## *From Mrs. Tueton & Mrs. Marker, Art Teachers:*

It's a new year and that calls for new art projects! We're working on some fantastic projects and we appreciate your cardboard and paper towel roll donations!

Congratulations to twelve special Bengals who had their art chosen to represent Bryant Elementary at the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo Art Show & Open House. Congrats to our artists: Brenly D., Sara M., Anna J., Gus G., Madelyn P., Piper B., Jackson A., Chloe B., Carter T., Zach N., Daniel B., and Kodi G.

Congrats to all of the amazing artists at Bryant!

***Don't forget!*** We love getting messy in art, so please don't forget not to wear your best clothes on art days!

## *From the District:*

**Summer Recreation Program:** The Katy ISD Outdoor Learning Center (OLC) has released information about the 2020 Summer Recreation Program. Additional information and registration forms can be found on the [OLC web site](#).

**Legacy Parent Academy:** The next session will focus on Internet Safety and will be hosted February 19<sup>th</sup> in the community rooms at Legacy Stadium from 6-8pm. [Click here](#) for more information.

**Dyslexia Parent Education:** The Katy ISD Office of Interventions will be hosting a Dyslexia Parent Education Night at the Education Support Complex on Tuesday, February 25, 2020 from 5:45pm to 8:15pm. [Click here](#) for more information.

# *Campus Event Calendar*

## **January 27-31**

Great Kindness Challenge Week (see information above)

## **February 3-7**

Spring Book Fair

## **February 5**

Monthly Character Kickoff for Responsibility (Wear Orange)

## **February 6**

Second Annual Family Learning Night, 5-7pm ([Click here for flyer](#))

Book Fair Open Late

## **February 13**

Grade Level Friendship Parties in the Gym (No Lunch Visitors) Preraptor by [clicking here](#)

8:45am-9:35am: 3rd Grade

11:45am-12:35pm: 4th Grade

2:45pm-3:15pm: ECAP/YCAP

9:45am-10:35am: 1st Grade

12:45pm-1:35pm: 2nd Grade

10:45am-11:35am: 5th Grade

1:45pm-2:35pm: Pre-K & Kinder

**February 14**

Early Dismissal @ 12:40pm (No Lunch Visitors)

**February 17**

Student Holiday – No School

**February 24-28**

PTA Coin Crazy Fundraiser

**February 28**

Bryant Ball PTA Family Event

## *Information from the PTA*

### *Chili Bowl Sign Up...*

The Bryant PTA will be sponsoring a "Chili Bowl" the Tuesday after the Super Bowl (2/4/20). We need volunteers to provide Chili, help set up, serve, or clean up. If you can help in any of those ways, please [click here](#) to sign up!!

### *Yearbooks on Sale!*

Yearbooks are continuing to be sold. The price is now \$35. [Click here](#) to buy a yearbook through the Jostens website.

### *Get your Spirit Wear!*

Our Spirit Wear is in-stock and ready for you! For your convenience, you can purchase all your Bryant Spirit Wear online by visiting <http://officialbryantpta.com>. If you have any questions, please contact our VP of Fundraising – Jennifer Nash at [bryantptafundraising@gmail.com](mailto:bryantptafundraising@gmail.com).