

Bryant Bulletin

February 5, 2020



Staff Spotlight— Ms. Smith

Ms. Smith is our Pre-Kindergarten teacher and our *Rookie Teacher of the Year* award recipient. She has her B.A. in Psychology from Baylor University and her M. A. from Sam Houston State University. This is Ms. Smith's first year in education. She says she chose to work in education because she loves to form relationships with students and help them grow. The student's eagerness to learn is infectious and makes her excited to come and see what each day will have in store. What Ms. Smith loves the most about teaching is the amazing way children look at things and explore things that interest them. She says, "Watching them form questions based on

information they receive and then explore the answers to those questions is extremely fascinating!" Her favorite moment in education so far is when a student was struggling with something they were doing in large group. The student came up to her afterwards and said, "It was hard, but I did it." Ms. Smith says that sums up the amount of perseverance she sees every day in her class. Outside of school, Ms. Smith likes to play with her dog, Neville. They spend weekends at the dog park playing. Ms. Smith also likes to bake and enjoys knitting or cross-stitching while watching TV. Ms. Smith helps to create a culture of care and kindness at Bryant by making her classroom a safe space for all her students to share their thoughts and feelings. She says they frequently have discussions about how what they do as individuals affects the people around them, so it is important to treat people how you want to be treated.

Dr. Rhodes' Weekly Message

Playground Update: I wanted to provide a short update on playground equipment and plans from our fall fundraiser. We are currently pricing soccer goals for the field and we are hoping to have those approved by the district soon. We are asking local MUD Districts if they would like to donate toward recess enhancements to combine with our fundraising dollars, in order to buy more expansion items at one time. If you know a MUD Board member in your neighborhood, please have them contact me or you can send me their information and I will reach out. williamhrhodes@katyisd.org

Upcoming Fundraisers and Challenges: We have a few small fundraisers and challenges coming up this month. These are small, fun competitions, but I wanted to make you aware so you can help your student decide if he or she wants to participate in one or both. Next week we have a Friendship Fundraiser sponsored by Student Council (details below) and at the end of the month, we have the PTA Sponsored Coin Crazy which becomes a grade level and homeroom competition to see which homeroom teacher will be crowned the king or queen of the Bryant Ball (details coming next week).

Retention Letters: Each year at this time we are required to send retention letters home to parents of students who have below 70 in a core subject area for last semester. These letters went home today. At this point the letters are informational in nature. It is too early to make retention decisions. If you received a retention letter, your child's teacher will be in contact over the next several weeks to discuss what interventions are in place to help reinforce learning with your child. Detailed information can be found on page 35 of the [Bryant Student Handbook](#).

Family Learning Night: The Bryant Staff is excited to present the 2nd Annual Family Learning Night tomorrow evening!! Join or jungle themed evening of learning from 5-7pm. From Cinco Ranch High School Robotics to Astronomy on Wheels and Interactive Read Alouds to Mr. French the Amazing Scientist, fun will be had by all. Our last Book Fair of the year will also be open and we will have food trucks on site. [Click here](#) for more details.

Blood Donation Opportunity: Bryant Elementary is partnering with Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center for a community blood drive on Friday, February 28th. If you are able to participate in this act of kindness, please mark your calendars. [Click here](#) for more details.

Rookie Teacher of the Year: Congratulations to Ms. Meredith Smith, Pre-Kindergarten Team (featured above). Ms. Smith has been named Rookie Teacher of the Year for the 2019-2020 school year and will be considered for District Rookie Teacher of the Year this semester. Congratulations Ms. Smith!!

Food & Toiletry Drive: Thank you for helping our students give the gift of kindness through the Student Council Sponsored Food and Toiletry drive. Our school donated over 2,000 items at 1,100 pounds!! This donation will help many families in the Katy area.

Friendship Fundraiser: Our Student Council (StuCo) is on to their next project. StuCo would like to raise money for a Buddy Bench to be added to our playground as a 2020 StuCo donation. Students can buy hearts and pick an administrator to give their heart to (I'm pretty sure it will be our Counselor, Mrs. Flores). The member of the Admin team (Mrs. Flores) who has the most hearts will wear a cupid costume for Friendship Parties on the 13th!! A flyer is in today's take home folder.

Friendship Parties: Our PTA will hold Friendship Parties on February 13th 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. You can sign up to help with Friendship Parties by clicking here.

Pre-Raptor ends at noon on 2/12/20.

From Mrs. Flores, School Counselor:

This Week's Character Challenge: show appreciation to someone who has helped you in your life.



After our week of the Great Kindness Challenge, we have once again received the distinction of being a Kindness Certified School for 2020!! Thanks to all who help grow our culture of kindness and care.

Bryant Career Day: Bryant is having a Career Day for grades K-5 on the morning of Thursday, April 30th. If you are interested in helping make this exciting day a success, please fill out the flyer in your 2nd-5th grade student's

Communication folder. First grade parents received an email from their teachers with details about Career Day. Kindergarten parents will be receiving an email later this month with further details. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to the School Counselor, Penny Flores, at penelopewflores@katyisd.org or 281-234-4331.

Responsibility: This month we reintroduced the character trait Responsibility. 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 that students will be able to apply and utilize in school and at home. We are using the following definition at school: 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, the School Counselor, at penelopewflores@katyisd.org.

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 19th 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

February 3-7

Spring Book Fair

February 6

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

Book Fair Open 5pm-7pm

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

Go Texan Day! (Dress with a Texan Flare)

Bryant Ball PTA Family Event

March 4

Monthly Character Kickoff for Respect (Wear **Yellow**)

March 5

8:45am-10:00am Kindergarten Field Day

10:10am-11:25am- 4th Grade Field Day

1:15pm-2:30pm- 2nd Grade Field Day

March 6

8:45am-10:00am- 1st Grade Field Day

10:10am-11:25am- 5th Grade Field Day

1:15pm-2:30pm- 3rd Grade Field Day

March 9-13

Spring Break

Information from the PTA

Yearbook...

It's time to get your 5th grade ads in, as the due date is February 13th. For more information, please contact the yearbook Chair, Christy Boyd, at bryantptayearbook@gmail.com. Please note that our Yearbooks are now \$40 and can be ordered from: <https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/customer/2735885/Bryant-Elementary-School/>.

Friendship Party Volunteers Needed!

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. Sign up here to volunteer: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080544AEA62CA4F58-friendship>

Spirit Night - February 10 @ Chuck E Cheese

Our next Spirit Night will be Monday, February 10th at Chuck E Cheese beginning after school until closing! Come enjoy pizza and games while raising money for our PTA. Chuck E Cheese will be donating 20% of sales back to our PTA. Flyers will be sent home with coupons in today's Wednesday folders!

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.