

Bryant Bulletin

December 11, 2019



Staff Spotlight— Mrs. Prochnow

Mrs. Prochnow is one of our fabulous 4th Grade teachers. She has her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Texas Tech University and her master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Angelo State University. This is Mrs. Prochnow's first year here at Bryant, but she has been working in education for five years. Mrs. Prochnow says she works in education because it is such a rewarding profession. She feels fortunate to be able to come to work every day and do what she is passionate about while making a difference in the lives of her students. Her favorite thing about working with students is seeing the amazing growth they make during the year. Mrs. Prochnow says, "Being able to watch my students develop a love of learning is truly the greatest gift a teacher could ask for." Her favorite moments in

education are when she gets to hear or see her students being successful in life after they leave her class. She says having parents reach out to tell her how their child is thriving is the best feeling in the world. Outside of school Mrs. Prochnow enjoys spending time with her husband and their dog, Piper. She also likes to lift weights, hike, and travel. Her favorite place she has visited so far is Belize. Mrs. Prochnow and her husband are excited to welcome a new addition to the family in April!! Mrs. Prochnow helps to create a Culture of Care and Kindness at Bryant by striving to serve as a role model for her students by showing them how to treat themselves and others with kindness. She believes when students are given the tools they need to spread care and kindness now and in the future, lives and communities can be changed.

Dr. Rhodes' Weekly Message

As you can imagine, in an elementary school of over 900 kids, the week before the holiday brings lots of excitement and energy. Please encourage amazing behavior. We still have lots of things to learn before the break. Thank you in advance.

Announcement: If you do not recognize/celebrate upcoming holidays, please let your child's homeroom teacher know so he or she can provide alternate activities for your child in case there are holiday related activities in class or school.

Reminder: Our amazing PTA is hosting *Cookies with Santa* this Friday evening from 5:30pm-7:00pm in the Gym. Decorate a cookie with your student, help make a craft for the family, snap a picture with Santa and buy last minute gifts at the Tip Top Holiday Shop!! [Click here](#) for the flyer. REMINDER- the Tip Top Holiday Shop can only accept cash, check, or Tip Top Shop Certificates. Please see the PTA section of the newsletter for more information.

Help Needed: PTA is trying to make a lot of things happen over the next seven days. They are providing a holiday shop for all students, gifts for families in need, an evening event for all families, as well as a cookie/treat bar for all staff. The Bryant PTA needs you in order to accomplish everything!! Please see the PTA Section below as there are many ways you can help.

Announcement: If your child is missing a jacket, lunchbox or other item, please have them check the Lost and Found. While we have amazing volunteers who go through Lost and Found items to check for names, many items do not have names written in them. Our PTA volunteers will pack all lost and found items at the end of the day on Thursday, December 19th. All items will be donated to a local organization the morning of Friday, December 20th.

Notice: There are several procedures we will tighten a bit when we return from winter break in order to gain approximately 10 more minutes of instruction throughout the day.

- Car riders, walkers, and bikers arriving after the 8:20am will not be able to go to the cafeteria to purchase breakfast. The cafeteria closes at 8:20 as our cafeteria team has to begin lunch preparations immediately in order to be ready for our first lunches. In the rare occasion that a bus is late, a grab and go breakfast can be purchased by students wanting breakfast and can be taken to class.
- Instead of waiting to begin our moment of silence when we go live on video announcements around 8:25am, we will begin the moment of silence, pledges and Bryant Code of Honor immediately after the 8:20am bell. We will then begin the live announcements at 8:25am.
- Currently we stage students for dismissal at 3:25. Now that we have a full semester of practice, we will move this back a few minutes. You should not notice a change as students are dismissed at 3:40pm.

Announcement: Our enrollment continues to increase as housing continues to be developed. Our current enrollment is 921 students. As we grow, traffic seems to be our most challenging issue. Beginning January 7, 2020, we will double stack cars at arrival. The goal is to get cars off the surrounding roadways and into our car rider lane. This will help prevent one long line winding throughout the community. I will send more detailed instructions, but in short, there will be two lines like at dismissal. At a designated spot marked by a big traffic cone, cars will take turns merging into one line of 16 cars. This same arrival procedure is used at other campuses with our "footprint," and it works very well. Again, more details with a map to come next week.

Weekly Satisfaction Survey: There has not been much participation in the Weekly Satisfaction Survey since we began placing the link in the newsletter. After the break, we will begin sending a link at the end of day each Friday as we did last year. For now, [Click here](#) to take our Bryant Satisfaction Survey. This survey will be open through Sunday evening.

From Mrs. Flores, School Counselor:

This Week's Character Challenge: Show respect to your classmates. Use full body listening and pay attention to their needs.

A lot of research today is telling us that the highest indicators of success in our kids isn't just about their grades or their IQ. The number one skill that helps people of all walks of life be successful is GRIT! The ability to persevere in the face of adversity or even failure. This information is found in the [K-2 resource \(en Espanol\)](#) and [3-5 resource \(en Espanol\)](#) parent newsletter on perseverance. This is such an important skill for our children to possess in order to overcome obstacles that they encounter. Our students will be engaging in meaningful discussions and activities that center on perseverance. For more information, please contact the School Counselor, Penny Flores, at penelopewflores@katyisd.org.

From Nurse Osbourne, School Nurse:

Information about Lice:

It is a good habit to check your children regularly for lice. Watch for frequent scratching of the scalp, brown or white eggs (nits) on the hair shaft that may look like dandruff but are not easily brushed away, and live lice which are brown and move very quickly. Encourage your child not to share combs, brushes, hair decorations or hats. If you think someone in your family has head lice, it's best to check everyone in the family and notify friends or relatives who may have been in contact as well. Please contact the campus nurse with any questions, or if you have treated your child for head lice. christilynpriceosbourne@katyisd.org

From the District:

Katy ISD will host a special education Transition Mini-Fair on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at the Jeanne Coleman Student Support Annex (JCSA) from 6:00PM until 9:00PM. Disability based agencies and community representatives will be present to provide information and answer questions related to potential services. The Texas Workforce Commission will present three overview breakout sessions. Please [click here](#) for additional details.

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

Monday, December 9-Friday, December 13

PTA Tip Top Holiday Shop

Friday, December 13

PTA Cookies with Santa 5:30pm-7:00pm

December 20

Early Dismissal 12:40pm

January 7

First Day of Spring Semester

January 8

Monthly Character Kickoff for Kindness (wear Pink)

January 14

Spirit Night (TBA)

January 16

Coffee with the Principal, 9am in the LGI. This is a live platform to ask questions, learn the "why" behind procedures and events, and learn about upcoming action items from Dr. Rhodes.

January 17

Spirit Store (during Lunch)

January 20

Student Holiday, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 21

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

January 24

100th Day of School

January 29

College Shirt Day

Information from the PTA

Tip Top Holiday Shop

Our Tip Top Holiday Shop is open for our students from 8:45am to 3:00pm every day this week, and will have extended hours during our Cookies with Santa event Friday evening from 5:30pm-7:00pm. This is a great way for your child to pick up holiday presents for siblings, grandparents, and even you! If you want to purchase gift certificates for your children to use instead of money, please consider visiting the Tip Top Holiday Shop at <https://tthsgift.com/>. We are also **in need of volunteers** for the remainder of the week and Friday evening. Seeing each kid you help with a big smile makes volunteering so meaningful. Please consider volunteering and [click here](#) to sign up.

Giving Tree

Our [Bryant Giving Tree](#) is up and located in our front office lobby. Each ornament on the tree represents one of our wonderful BES students. If you would like to participate, please pick an ornament and use the signup sheet hanging next to the tree to indicate which ornament you have taken. Please deliver these items unwrapped by Monday, December 16th to our front office, along with the selected ornament tag. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Corliss at Bryantptaengagement@gmail.com. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and participation! Happy Holidays!

Cookies with Santa Help

Cookies with Santa is taking place this Friday, December 13th, and we are **looking for volunteers** to help make this a fun event for our Bryant students and their families! Please consider signing up for a shift to make this event a great success! The event itself is from 5:30-7:00pm. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080544aea62ca4f58-cookies>

Holiday Treat Bar

Bryant Elementary PTA will be hosting a Holiday Treat Bar for our amazing teachers and staff. The PTA needs help with all the wonderful treats we want to provide. If you can make 3 dozen or more treats (cookies, bars, candies, etc...), **please consider volunteering**. Homemade treats are preferred however we know time might be an issue so bakery fresh treats are welcomed. Festive disposable serving trays are appreciated! Please no pre-packaged treats as the staff will be filling up a box with their favorites to take home. Thank you so much for offering to help make this PTA event a sweet success! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805054aa5ae2ca1f85-besholiday>

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.