

# Bryant Bulletin

October 16, 2019

## Staff Spotlight—Ms. Chaney



Ms. Chaney is one of our new 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade teachers. She completed her undergraduate degree at Baylor University, her Masters at the University of Texas at Tyler and is in the process of earning her Doctorate at Baylor University. This is Ms. Chaney's 5<sup>th</sup> year teaching. She works in education because she absolutely loves learning and working with children. She feels every child deserves someone that will never give up on them and insist they become their best, and she wants to be that person for her students. Ms. Chaney loves that every day is a new adventure. She says children have so much joy and compassion and they often teach her something new. The thing that makes her heart the happiest in education is the 'lightbulb' moments that her students have when learning something new or challenging. Outside of

school Ms. Chaney enjoys traveling, the outdoors, crafting, reading, naps, and cuddling with her dog. She helps to create a culture of Care and Kindness at Bryant by building relationships with ALL students and staff. She feels relationships are so important and help develop a classroom family.

## *Dr. Rhodes' Weekly Message*

As of today, we have finished 45 days of school and are a quarter of the way into the school year. It seems like we started just a few weeks ago! While the first weeks of school are often easy for students, the following weeks become more difficult as teachers dive into the grade level curriculum. As a campus, we are focused on developing grit in our students and we need your help. Research shows that when we let students struggle with their learning without leading to frustration, students begin to understand. While teachers model their thinking for students on a daily basis, each person/each child thinks a bit differently. It is important for students to develop grit and understand their own thinking abilities. Educators and parents can place pressure on elementary students that is not necessary, especially at this time of year, when learning has gotten harder and grades may slump a bit from the end of last year. This is okay and our kids will be ok. I know it is hard to see kids struggle with learning (or in any part of life), but at healthy levels, struggle is beneficial in brain development. As we enter the 2<sup>nd</sup> nine weeks, it is normal to see student learning rates and abilities begin to climb as they develop new grit required as curriculum increases in difficulty. I will write more about grit in future editions of the Bryant Bulletin.

**FYI:** Did you know you can view your student's grades as each nine weeks progresses? Simply check out the Katy ISD [Home Access Center](#). If you do not know login or password information for Home Access Center (HAC), send a note to the front office and we will send the information home with your student. Due to confidentiality and district guidelines, we cannot give this login information out via email or telephone call.

**Safety Reminder:** Willowmoor Lane and Ash Creek Court should not be used as a student drop-off location. We still have parents who park and block the entrance to Ash Creek Court where children are trying to walk to/from school. Others also use the street to turn around and drop students off. This is very unsafe. The car rider line does not go

past the tardy bell and only takes a few more minutes. Please use the car rider line. It only takes a fraction of a second to change a life forever. Please help keep all Bryant students safe.

**Weekly Satisfaction Survey:** [Click here](#) to take our Bryant Satisfaction Survey.

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

**This Week's Character Challenge:** Help someone in need.

This month, we are focusing on empathy. The definition of empathy that students are learning at school is "the ability to understand and connect with the feelings of another." If you are looking for ways to talk about empathy at home, please read our [K-2 resource](#) and [3-5 resource](#). If you would like more information or have questions, please contact the School Counselor, Penny Flores, at 281-234-4331 or [penelopewflores@katyisd.org](mailto:penelopewflores@katyisd.org).

**Bullying Prevention Month/Red Ribbon Week:** We will celebrate Red Ribbon Week October 21<sup>st</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>. Students are welcome to join our fun dress up days to show support for drug and bullying prevention. [Click here](#) for school and district specific dress days (note - the 23<sup>rd</sup> is the 50<sup>th</sup> day of school so we will celebrate Unity Day one day early on the 22<sup>nd</sup>). Participation is always optional for all students and families.

### ***From Our GT Teacher:***

#### **Elementary Gifted and Talented Screening**

The gifted and talented program in Katy ISD serves elementary students with a one day per week pullout program. If you would like your **1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> grade** child screened for Challenge for the **2019-2020** school year, please request an Elementary Parent Checklist from the Counselor's office or front desk beginning **October 14th**.

The Parent Checklist form is also available online from [www.katyisd.org](http://www.katyisd.org). Look under Departments > Gifted and Talented. **Completed forms must be returned to the Challenge teacher by Wednesday, October 30, 2019.**  
**\*\*PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A MUCH EARLIER DEADLINE THAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS.\*\***

### ***After School Program:***

AbraKadoodle after school art program is returning for the third year beginning October 30<sup>th</sup>. Please [click here](#) for more information. Please note--outside companies rent space at the school from Katy ISD and are overseen by the company and its employees. Bryant Staff/Administration are not involved in the program and do not oversee the program. It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to let the after school program staff know of any special needs, allergies, or other pertinent information their instructors may need to know in order for your child to be successful in their program.

### ***From the District:***

The Legacy Parent Academy will continue in the 2019-2020 school year with sessions focusing on prevalent social-emotional topics. The academy is intended to provide parents with information on current topics that impact students and school districts. Academy sessions are supplemental to campus-based programs and initiatives. The Legacy Parent Academy [webpage](#) includes session descriptions and a link to register for future sessions.

# Campus Event Calendar

## Friday, October 18

Early Dismissal @ 12:40pm (No lunch visitors)

## Monday, October 21-25

Red Ribbon Week

## Friday, October 25

PTA General Board Meeting 4pm

PTA Trunk or Treat Event 5:30pm

## Monday, November 4- Friday, November 8

Library Book Fair

## Thursday, November 7

3rd Grade Veterans Day Program 6pm

## Friday, November 8

PTA Spirit Store Open during lunch times. *If students will make purchases, please place money in a sealed ziplock bag labeled with student name and indicating the money is for Spirit Store.*

## Tuesday, November 12

Make up & Class Pictures

## Information from the PTA

### ***Yearbooks on Sale!***

Yearbooks are on sale for this school year. The price is \$30. ***Price will increase after October 25th!***

<https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/customer/2735885/Bryant-Elementary-School/>

### ***Trunk or Treat –October 25***

Our annual Trunk or Treat will be held on Friday evening, October 25<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-6:30pm. Donated candy is still needed. Candy can be dropped off at the designated "Candy-Drop" in the BES Lobby. We look forward to a great event!

### ***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).