

Bryant Bulletin

January 16, 2019



Staff Spotlight—Mrs. Flores

Mrs. Flores is our amazing Counselor!! Mrs. Flores has a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies and Master's degrees in School Counseling, Elementary Education, and Reading. She has been in education for eleven years. Mrs. Flores works in education because, as she shared, "I want to make a difference! Starting in high school, I knew my heart was in education. However, nothing is like the experience of teaching. It is so rewarding! You get to make a difference in the lives of children each and every day! After a few years as a teacher, I became passionate about helping children both socially and emotionally as well as academically at a deeper level, so I got into the counseling gig and I

LOVE it! I want to make a difference that is why I work in education!!" We asked Mrs. Flores to share one of her favorite moments in education, "There are so many! I am grateful for every experience I have had! One of my favorite moments in education was when I was teaching first grade. Entering my classroom one year was a nonreader who identified himself as such. He began his first grade life with a defeatist attitude thinking he would never be able to read. As the year progressed, he worked hard on it. I remember the day he was able to read all of the words on the page in front of him, on his own, without assistance. The joy on his face for accomplishing what he originally thought he could not do was enough to warm anyone's heart!" Outside of school, Mrs. Flores loves learning, reading, swimming, spending time at the lake, and watching Netflix. Mrs. Flores shared how she helps create a culture of care and kindness at Bryant, "I have helped implement some Kindness Initiatives here at Bryant such as the Kindness Crew, Random Acts of Kindness, No Place for Hate, and Bengal Buddies. 'Just as ripples spread out when a single pebble is dropped into water, the actions of individuals can have far-reaching effects.' I hope to create a ripple of kindness through my initiatives as well as my actions. I think it is important to also model this culture, for if you are showing care and kindness towards others it is felt with all of those that enter the building and becomes a part of the culture and atmosphere of the school. In addition, it can create a ripple effect throughout our school.

Dr. Rhodes' Weekly Message

I hope everyone is having a great week. It is exciting to be in the classrooms right now as students settle back in for the second semester. It always amazes me how kids mature at this time of year. We have a lot of fun events coming soon (see calendar and PTA Section) for details. I have a few notices below...

Special Thank You: Thank you to [Texan Roofing](#) for sponsoring our Treasure Tower for the second semester. Kindness is rewarded at Bryant Elementary through the use of our Treasure Tower!! Thank you!!

Attention: We will continue our weekly surveys beginning this Friday. We have gained a lot of good feedback. If you have a concern or are unhappy, please consider leaving your name and contact information so that Mrs. O'Leary or myself can reach out to resolve the issue. You can leave feedback anonymously as well. A HUGE thank you for those that take time to give teachers and staff praise. I include what you say in our weekly staff newsletter so all staff see what you have written.

FYI: Our Library is a very busy place...over 19,000 books circulated in the 1st semester!! [Check out this infographic](#) to see some of the highlights from the 1st semester!!

New Event Coming Soon: Mark your calendars! On February 7th, our teachers and staff will host a learning night!! Instead of beginning a Math Night or Reading Night, we decided to throw it all together and have a Learning Night in which parents and students can learn and have fun together. We will even have food trucks available for dinner choices. Further info to come, but please mark your calendars!!

Reminder: BlitzKidz After School Chess Program, an outside afterschool program will begin February 5th. There are a lot of excited kiddos about this program. Learn more by [clicking here](#).

Kindness Crew: This week our challenge is to make someone feel better or make them laugh if they are feeling down.

Event Calendar

Monday, January 21

Student Holiday, Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Thursday, January 24

Coffee with the Principal @9am, LGI

Friday, January 25

100th Day of School

Spirit Store During Grade Level Lunches (Please place money to be spent on Spirit Store in a ziplock bag with your child's name, grade level, and Teacher written on the outside. Please label the bag as "Spirit Store Money.")

Wednesday, January 30

College Shirt Day

District Family Night, No Homework Assigned.

Monday, February 4 – Friday, February 8

Book Fair

National School Counseling Week--We LOVE Mrs. Flores!!

Wednesday, February 6

Core Essential Kickoff, wear blue for "service."

Thursday, February 7

Family Learning Night, 5-7:30pm

Tuesday, February 12

Progress Reports Go Home

Thursday, February 14

Friendship Parties, more information and pre-raptored sign in link coming out next week!

Friday, February 15

Early Dismissal, 12:40pm

Sparkle & Spur Ball, 6-7:30pm

Monday, February 18

Student Holiday, President's Day

Thursday, February 21

2nd grade Living Museum, more information coming home soon!

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 Counselor:

Bryant Elementary will be hosting a Career Day for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students during the school day on May 3rd. We are looking for parents that may be interested in being a part of the event. We really want our parents to be the baseline of our Career Day. We will seek outside community members to represent careers only if needed. It is much more meaningful if our students hear from our parents. We would need you to be available at Bryant Elementary from 8:20-11:30 on May 3rd. You would speak to 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders about your job in 45 minute rotations. If you are interested in being a part of our Career Day, please email me, Penny Flores, at penelopewflores@katyisd.org.

From the District:

Proclamation 2019 includes instructional materials for K-5 English Language Arts and Spanish Language Arts, Grades 6-8 English Language Arts, Grades 7-8 English Learners Language Arts, and Personal Financial Literacy. These materials will be implemented during the 2019- 2020 school year. Instructional materials under consideration will be on display during business hours (8:00AM-4:00PM) for parent and community input at the Education Support Complex from January 14-25, 2019. In addition, instructional materials will be available for review from 5:00PM to 8:00PM on Tuesday, January 15, 2019 and Thursday, January 24, 2019.

Home to School Connection

Read to succeed

Whether your child is solving a word problem in math or following instructions for a science experiment, strong reading skills play an important role. Here are activities to build his comprehension as he learns in three key subjects.

Math

Suggest that your youngster read a math story problem aloud and then retell it in his own words—leaving out the numbers! This allows him to focus on what the problem is asking him to do before he tries to solve it. *Example:* “A panda had a lot of bamboo. Then he ate some. Now he has less. How much bamboo does he have left?” He’ll know that he needs to subtract.

Science

Diagrams, charts, tables, and other graphics help your child “see” science concepts. Encourage him to create his own visual aids. If he’s reading about the



layers of the Earth, maybe he will draw a diagram and label the *crust*, *mantle*, *outer core*, and *inner core*.

History

Your youngster will go back in time by reading historical fiction about topics he studies. He’ll feel as if he’s walking the streets of ancient Greece, for instance, while also getting background information on people, places, and events. He might try a series like *Magic Tree House* (Mary Pope Osborne) or *Blast to the Past* (Stacia Deutsch and Rhody Cohon).♥

Information from the PTA

2018-2019 Yearbook

Please don’t forget that in order to guarantee you receive a yearbook for this school year, you must place your order by March 1st. The cost of the yearbook is \$40.00. Yearbooks for the 2018-2019 school year are available to purchase by [clicking here](#).

As a reminder, if you have pictures from school-related events, please send them to bryantptayearbook@gmail.com or upload them through the ReplayIt App:

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

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

Online Store

Are you ready for this weekend's cold front? Do you want to stay warm in style? Stop by our PTA Online Store and grab one of our Bryant Hoodies or long sleeve shirts (in both youth and adult sizes) and stay warm this weekend – and for the remainder of this winter season! [Click here](#) to order.

Bryant Ball – February 15

Save the date for our second annual Bryant Ball with this year's theme: "Sparkles and Spurs." This event is open to our Bryant families and will be fun for all. More information will be available in the coming weeks.