

Bryant Bulletin

October 23, 2019



Staff Spotlight—Mrs. Barron

Ms. Barron is one of our new 3rd Grade Teachers this year. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Maryland, College Park and her Master's degree from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Mrs. Barron loves working in education because every day brings something new. She says watching a student reach his or her full potential and knowing that she may have played even a small role in that is the greatest feeling. Mrs. Barron feels education is an ever-changing job and even after teaching for 16 years, she still has the opportunity to grow and learn. What she loves the most about teaching is the relationships that she builds with her students. Mrs. Barron states, "it is such a great feeling to be a part of a classroom community." She loves that she gets to have an impact on student's

lives and getting the opportunity to see them grow every single day. Her favorite moment in education was when she ran into a former student at another school that had moved mid-year. The student told her all the great things he was doing at his new school, and it made her so proud. Mrs. Barron says she still thinks of this student often. Outside of school, Mrs. Barron enjoys spending time with family, traveling, reading, cooking and shopping. Ms. Barron creates a Culture of Care and Kindness at Bryant by creating a classroom family for all students. She leads by example to show her students what it feels like to be a caring and kind person. Mrs. Barron says her class family celebrates and learns from each other and she wants her students to value each other as well as the time they spend together.

Dr. Rhodes' Weekly Message

We hope everyone is having a great week! Please see below for some helpful reminders...

Social Media: As adults, it is important that we teach students digital citizenship, or how to use technology appropriately. We integrate this throughout our school year as well as specifically focus on it for a week during the school year. As adults, we should also model digital citizenship for students and sometimes even other adults. Before posting something negative online about our community or Bryant, give us a call or send us an email. In my experience, I find that most issues are due to miscommunication or lack of clear communication. It is important as a school community that we have two-way communication in a respectful manner. Turning to social media does not solve a problem or concern. If you have a question or concern and want a solution, please email or call a teacher, grade level Assistant Principal, or myself. As a community we can make Bryant and all of our neighborhoods the very best.

Thank You: Thank you to our PTA and volunteer parents who provided our staff with a fall luncheon yesterday. Fresh pasta and yummy desserts were enjoyed by all.

Weekly Satisfaction Survey: [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: Speak Up or Stand Up for someone in need.

Did you know that Bryant Elementary has a Kindness Crew? This group of third, fourth, and fifth graders are selected by their peers and teacher to represent their classroom as a Kindness Crew member. They meet with the Counselor once a month to discuss relevant issues on campus and ways to instill and enhance kindness throughout the school. They also come up with the weekly Character Challenges based on their experiences. You may see them giving out high fives and greeting students on Monday mornings, as they hope to get other students excited about the school day.

We also have Kindness Scouts in Kinder-2nd Grade. These students are on the lookout for kind acts happening around the school. Each week, the Kindness Scout reports kindness they have seen to their class, as well as nominates someone from their class for extraordinary kindness! Kindness and care are an important part of our school culture.

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.

Bullying Prevention Month/Red Ribbon Week: We continue to celebrate through the end of this week. [Click here](#) for school and district specific dress days. Participation is always optional for all students and families.

From Mrs. Marker & Mrs. Teuton, BES(t) Art Teachers:

The first nine weeks in art have been busy and we've really enjoyed creating with your kids. Right now we're focusing on our rodeo unit and creating western and Texas themed art. We love getting messy in art, so please don't forget not to wear your best clothes on art days!

Congratulations to some special Bengals for having their art chosen to hang at the KISD Education Support Complex. If you get a chance, stop by the ESC during normal business hours to support our amazing artists. Congrats to our artists, Keagan G., Bradley F., Fatema S., Jillian B., Sophia M., and Mikiaiah C.

Soon your student will come home with their Square 1 Art package. Look out for their artwork, stickers, and ordering catalog!

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 **1st - 4th 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 by [clicking here](#). 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 30th. 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:

Listen live to our Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Ken Gregorski, as he provides updates during the **2019 State of the District**. A live stream link will be available for viewing purposes from your home computer or mobile device at the start of the event on Friday, October 25th at 8:00 a.m. Join us as we explore the "Katy ISD Landscape" and what is in store for the leader in education excellence. To access the link, visit www.KatyISD.org and click on the State of the District slide at the top of the page.

The Department of Special Education is offering a parent training on Behavior Management Strategies and De-escalation Techniques which will focus on a foundational understanding of behavior and strategies to de-escalate children in crisis. [Click here](#) for more information. *(Side note from Dr. Rhodes- I am hearing the fall date is already full but if interested, go ahead and register for the spring session before it fills up.)*

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

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

Friday, November 22

Grade Level Thankful Parties (Schedule announced next week)

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 –This Friday

Our annual Trunk or Treat will be held on Friday evening, October 25th 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.