

Bryant Bulletin

December 19, 2018

Staff Spotlight— Mrs. Tole



Mrs. Tole is one of our fabulous 1st grade teachers! She graduated from Texas State University with a Bachelor's in Elementary Education. This is Mrs. Tole's seventh year in education. We asked Mrs. Tole why she works in education and she shared, "I love to influence children in a positive way. Helping students find their passion has always driven me. I love when one of my students finally understands an idea, concept, or finds their niche and really begins to shine!!" Outside of school, some of Mrs. Tole's favorite hobbies include hiking, camping, cooking, and playing with the dog with her husband...and preparing for their new arrival—Miss Taylor Tole! Mrs. Tole loves fostering care and kindness in her classroom and school wide. She shared how she helps create a culture of care and kindness in her classroom, "We work hard in our classroom to create a family environment. This is something I also instill in my students throughout their day at Bryant. We try to carry our family environment throughout our grade level and specials classes." We are grateful to have Mrs. Tole at Bryant!!

Dr. Rhodes' Weekly Message

It is hard to believe we have almost reached the end of the first semester! I hope you and your family enjoy the winter break. Be safe, have fun, make memories, and get a little relaxation in too. We look forward to continuing the educational journey with our BES(t) students and families when we return in January.

FYI: Did you know that your children have access to a program that will help them achieve success in math? DreamBox is a program purchased by Katy ISD for all students. It is designed to create a deep learning experience that motivates students to progress and achieve success, providing just the right amount of support when they need it. Parents naturally want to help a child who is struggling with a challenging lesson. Here's why you should resist the instinct to intervene. Instead, help maximize your child's learning experience with DreamBox by encouraging him or her to:

- **Try every problem:** Persist, even when it's hard.
- **Finish every lesson:** Persevere instead of choosing another lesson.
- **Click the Help and Hint buttons, as needed:** Assistance is always just a click away.
- **Use your headphones with the volume on:** Listen to the directions and feedback.
- **Work Independently:** Don't let others do your work for you.

DreamBox is available through MyKaty Cloud, and students have been working in the program at school since September. In order for students to show optimum growth in math, they should complete at least 5 lessons per week and 90 lessons total by the beginning of February. Encourage them to access the program at home during the break to keep their math skills fresh!

If you have questions about using DreamBox at home, please contact the Client Success team. You can reach them by email at support@dreambox.com or by phone at 1 (877) 451-7845 ext. 3. They are available Monday through Friday between 5AM and 5PM, PT.

Announcement: Texas Senate Bill 725 and Texas House Bill 367, named the Fairness in Feeding Act, allows for schools to create Sharing Tables within the cafeteria in order to rescue and redistribute food for students who may be hungry at breakfast or lunch. Bryant Elementary will begin Sharing Tables in grades 2-5 in the Second Semester when we return from Winter Break. Please [click here](#) for a flyer about Sharing Tables. Please note, teachers nor volunteers monitor what students are donating or choosing from the Sharing Table. Students will raise their hand with a symbol to indicate they want to go to the Sharing Table and teachers/volunteers will allow them to go. It is important for **students with food allergies** to know what they can and cannot eat. Students with allergies can always ask a teacher if they feel an item from the Sharing Table would be good for them to eat. If you have a student with allergies and are concerned, you may want to let your child know they should never choose anything from the Sharing Table. Food allergies and maturity is the basis for our decision to only allow Sharing Tables in grades 2-5. Again, please [click here](#) for all information regarding Sharing Tables. All rules and classifications of what can be left on a Sharing Table are described in the flyer. A table will be designated for sealed items and fruit with inedible peels. A small refrigerator will be available for milk rescue and redistribution.

Attention: This Friday at 12:40 all lost and found items will be boxed/bagged and donated to a local charity. Please either stop by to look in the Lost and Found or have your student check for something they may be missing.

Announcement: Our PTA is seeking a Historian, which is a Board Member position. If you are interested, please email our PTA President, Flora Rogers at bryantptapresident@gmail.com

Kindness Crew: This week's kindness challenge is, "share with others."

Event Calendar

Friday, December 21

Student Winter Sing-Along (Student event- 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 during this 30 minute event)

Friday, December 21

Early Dismissal, 12:40pm

Monday, December 21-Monday, January 7

Winter Break

Tuesday, January 8

Third Grading Period Begins

New Student Registration, 8:00-12:00pm

Wednesday, January 9

Core Essential Kickoff (Wear yellow for Self-Control)

Friday, January 11

*Robotics, 3:30-5:30pm (see registration info below)

*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.")

*Report Cards Go Home

Tuesday, January 15

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

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.

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](#)

After School Programs:

We are excited that **KidBlitz After School Chess Program** will be offering an after-school program for any level chess player (beginner to advanced) from February 6th- April 16th. Please [click here](#) for more information about this new opportunity. Students of any level can register for this course.

After School **Katy Robotics Academy** is coming to BES beginning January 11th. 1st-5th graders will have an opportunity to learn computer programming with LEGO robotics! Students will learn computer science and robotics concepts through hands-on experiences with LEGO EV3 and WeDo robots. [Click here](#) for more information. Please note, registration for both opportunities is on a first come basis and space is limited. Note- Outside companies rent space at the school and are overseen by the company and its employees. Bryant Staff and Administration are not involved and do not oversee the programs. Each company will have their own method of dismissal at the end of their program each week.

From Our Counselor:

This coming month our Core Value is **SELF-CONTROL**. Self-control means choosing to do what you should even though you don't want to. It's like the quote from Seneca, "Most powerful is he who has himself in his own power."

Please help us kick off this month's trait by wearing **yellow** on **Wednesday, January 9, 2019**. Below are some great activities that you can do to encourage and help build self-control.

- If you feel yourself becoming angry or frustrated, find a quiet place to draw or write.
- When you're about to say something inappropriate, stop and THINK (Is it true? Is it helpful? Is it inspiring? Is it necessary? Is it kind?).
- Don't hurry to be first when your teacher asks the class to line up.

Please contact me if you would like additional resources.

Penny Flores, BES School Counselor, 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

ACTIVITY CORNER

Frosty science

With this experiment, your child can see frost and learn why people sprinkle salt on icy sidewalks and roads.

How? Have your youngster rinse out two empty soup cans, remove the labels, and fill each can halfway with ice. She should stir $\frac{1}{4}$ cup salt into just one can and set both cans aside.



What happens? After 10 minutes, she'll notice frost on the "salty can" and water on the other one.

Why? Salt lowers the melting point of the ice, so the can with salt got colder than the other can. When water in the air condensed onto the cans, it froze into frost on the one with salt. That's why salt is useful in winter—it melts snow and ice, making it safer to walk or drive.♥

Information from the PTA

Cookie Bar for BES Staff:

On Thursday (Dec. 20th) we are sponsoring a Cookie Bar for the Bryant Staff. We need your help to make this a nice treat for the staff. If you can make or buy cookies for the 20th, we would appreciate it. [Click here](#) to sign up.

Yearbooks:

Yearbooks for the 2018-2019 school year are available to purchase by [clicking here](#).

Yearbook App – Upload Your Pictures:

Our yearbook chair would like to implement a new program this year called "Replay It," to help with uploading school pictures for our yearbook. We would greatly appreciate it if you could download the app and upload photos throughout the year. It is quite simple to do and much easier than emailing photos to the yearbook volunteers. Please visit the link below to find the app. You will simply download it, search for Bryant Elementary School, and create an

account. Thank you in advance for your help! If you have any questions, please contact Robin Marcoulier at bryantptayearbook@gmail.com.

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

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