

Bryant Bulletin

April 10, 2019

Staff Spotlight—Ms. Harris



Ms. Harris is one of our fabulous Resource/In-Class Support Assistants! Ms. Harris is also the 2018-2019 Bryant Elementary Assistant of the Year!! Ms. Harris is currently completing her undergraduate degree in education from the University of Houston. She has worked in education for four years. Ms. Harris shared some of her favorite things about education, "I believe that the value of a good educator cannot be measured and I strive to be a positive influence in the students' lives. I love seeing a child grow through their education and become more confident in their abilities. One of my favorite moments in education was when one of my students who was struggling to read finally started recognizing sight words.

He was so excited to be able to read independently!" Outside of school some of Ms. Harris' favorite hobbies include spending time with family, reading, gardening, and playing with her two dogs. Ms. Harris shared how she helps foster care and kindness at Bryant, "I believe whole-heartedly in modeling kindness for others and treating everyone with kindness and respect."

Dr. Rhodes' Weekly Message

I hope everyone has had a great week so far. Our 4th and 5th grade students worked hard the past two days completing their STAAR tests. Just a reminder, the remainder of this week we continue to have a "closed campus" as we have students making up tests Thursday and Friday.

Dress Code: As the temperatures rise, students are breaking out the shorts. We have noticed students (mostly grades 3-5) wearing inappropriate clothing to school, especially shorts that are too short. The district dress code ([click here to read](#)) states "acceptable shorts are no shorter than mid-thigh for all grades." If a student is dressed inappropriately, the student's teacher will call to let you know. This call will be notification that the item/items like it should not be worn to school. At the elementary level, repeated dress code violations are a level two offense which will require an office referral. We will begin monitoring dress code more closely beginning Monday. Thanks in helping keep all students dressed appropriately.

Congratulations: Shout out to twelve Bengals who will have their artwork shown at the annual Katy ISD Spring Art Show next week. Only twelve students are selected to represent Bryant and it's a BIG honor to be chosen! Congratulations to these students: Sebastian Carrasquero, Corrine Weiche, Jeremiah Pena, Hiba Rehman, Cameron Ellis, Jenna Tromp, Eden Burkett, Valentina Ramos, Lauren Hulin, Corbin Wendland, Adeline Veillon, and Naya Saidam.

Congratulations: Way to go Mrs. Morgan, one of our amazing Kinder teachers!! Mrs. Morgan was recognized as a Statewide Semi-Finalist for the *HEB Award for Excellence*. Out of approximately 1500 educators who applied, Mrs. Morgan was in the top 10%!!

Announcement: Beginning today, I am opening a two week window (4/10-4/24) in which you can email me characteristics your student needs in a teacher next year. I will take those characteristics and match your student with a teacher who is the closest match. Please know, I do not take requests for specific teachers. In fact, if there is a request for a specific teacher, I will not be able to honor it and your child will be placed with another teacher who matches similar characteristics. Please send your email to williamhrhodes@katyisd.org with the subject **“Teacher Characteristics for 19/20.”** In your email, please record student name, current grade level he/she is in, and the characteristics your child needs in a teacher. If you have multiple students, please clearly identify the name and grade level of each student (bold, italics, etc.) in one email. I will reply to all emails with a simple **“Your email has been received.”** If you do not receive this response email from me within 2 business days, please do not hesitate to send your email again. My inbox is packed with resumes at this time of the year, so email can get a bit hectic. Thanks in advance.

Kindness Crew Challenge: Encourage someone!

Special Education Assistants: We are hiring several Paraprofessional/Assistants to work with our specialized programs for the 2019-2020 school year. If you are interested in joining our dynamic team, please [click here](#) for qualifications and application details. Once you have clicked, search “Bryant Aide.” Click “Apply” to read the job description. Feel free to pass the word to any great people you may know who share a passion for working with kids.

I-Write Contest: Because we have so many writers at Bryant, we would love to see some win the I-Write contest again and have their stories, poetry, or artwork published in a real book! Last year, our very own Caleb Caldwell won the contest and helped us promote it this year with students in grades 3-5. If your child would like to participate in the contest, entry is paid by the school. Below you will find links for submission of stories, poems and/or artwork for this year’s contest. Each student submitting into the contest will need to create an account for themselves, with the help of a parent of course. As a reminder the contest is for current 3rd-5th grade students, so current Kinder, 1st, and 2nd grade students will not be able to submit. All submissions are due before May 31st.

For Short Story submissions, [click here](#).

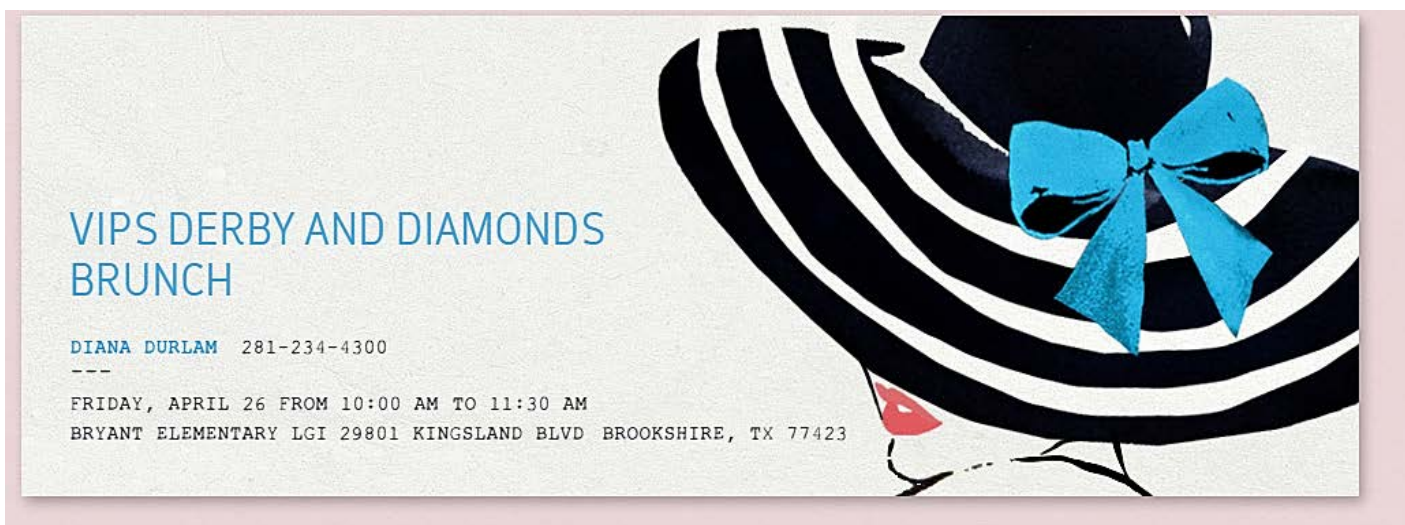
For Poetry submissions, [click here](#).

For Cover Artwork submissions, [click here](#).

Monthly Writing Goals: Congratulations to our **March Writers of the Month!** We were thrilled to hear their strong voices through the words and language they chose to use in their writing! Our school-wide focus for April is grammar and conventions. Grammar and conventions are the meaning-makers for both reading and writing. We write to make meaning for our readers, and we know the choices we make have an effect on our messages. We choose to use both short and long sentences within a variety of structures, and we choose our punctuation carefully. We are careful to put

spaces between our words, spell our words correctly, and use capitalization effectively. We look forward to celebrating our writers in May who have demonstrated effective choices as meaning-makers for their readers!

You're Invited: Have you volunteered for Bryant this year? Whether you have volunteered in the Watch D.O.G.S. Program, cut lamination out from home, volunteered for an event, or are in the work room every day, the BES Staff wants to honor you. YOU help every child learn and grow at Bryant Elementary. Our appreciation brunch will be held on April 26th from 10-11:30am in our LGI room. Please RSVP on or before 4/18 by [clicking here](#)



Event Calendar

Friday, April 5

Early Dismissal- 12:40pm

Monday, April 8 – Friday, April 12

STAAR Testing- CLOSED CAMPUS, No Visitors (not even for lunch times or to volunteer)

Friday, April 12

PTA Movie Night, 6-7:30pm (Food Trucks ready at 5:30pm)

Wednesday, April 17

Kindergarten Cap and Gown Pictures (specific information will be emailed to all kinder parents this week) Order forms sent home today (10th).

Thursday, April 18

Pre-Registration for incoming Kindergarten and new incoming 1st graders, 9-11am & 1-3pm. (Paperwork is completed through district website prior to April 17). [Click here for flyer.](#)

Friday, April 19

Student and Staff Holiday

Wednesday, April 24

College Shirt Day

Thursday, April 25

*Progress Reports Go Home

*PJ's for Junior Achievement. Students can wear pajamas for the day with a \$2 donation. All proceeds will go towards the Junior Achievement program, which we offer at our school K-5. Students will need to wear appropriate shoes for PE/Recess.

Friday, April 26

Bryant Elementary Volunteer Appreciation Brunch, 10-11:30am, LGI Room

Tuesday, April 30

Parenting in the Digital Age, 6-7pm, Cell phones, social media, gaming and YouTube. Kids have a lot of opportunities as well as distractions right at their fingertips. Find out more about the tools attracting our children's attention and learn some tips for managing the technology in your household. [This is an adult only educational class. Click here for more information.](#)

Wednesday, May 1

Core Essentials Kickoff- Perseverance; wear verdigris (vibrant Green)

Tuesday, May 7

CAT Meeting in the LGI, 4pm

Friday, May 10

VIPS District-Wide Breakfast, 8:30am-10:30am. More details to come.

Monday, May 13 – Friday, May 16

STAAR Testing- CLOSED CAMPUS, No Visitors (not even for lunch times or to volunteer)

Wednesday, May 22

College Shirt Day

Thursday, May 23

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL-Early Dismissal, 12:40PM

Report Cards Go Home

Home to School Connection®

Learning to be patient

Patience is a skill that can be learned. Kids who develop it tend to have greater self-control and even do better in school. Foster patience in your youngster with these tips.

Live in the moment. Encourage your child to enjoy what's going on right now, rather than looking forward to what will happen next. For example, she could look out the window at the sunset while she waits for you to get off the phone. Or if she's having trouble falling



asleep because she can't wait to visit her friend tomorrow, she might focus on how warm and cozy she feels in her bed now.

Enjoy the payoff. Have your youngster think of something that took her a while to master, such as learning to read music. Then, remind her of how good she felt when she succeeded. Share an example from your life, too. *Idea:*

Let her take on an activity or a project that requires patience, like growing a plant or putting together a jigsaw puzzle.♥

Information from the PTA

March Volunteers of the Month

March flew by, but we couldn't have had a successful month without all of our wonderful volunteers, especially Elissa Barnett and Gary Chaney! Elissa, thank you for always signing up to help with workroom projects and literacy library. Our teachers greatly appreciate all of your support. Our kids always smile when they see Gary welcoming them in car rider line. Thank you Gary for always going above and beyond when we need help! You guys are Rock Stars!

March Bengal Volunteers 2019



Elissa Barnett



Gary Chaney

Family Movie Night – April 12th

Please join us for our 2nd Annual Family Movie Night on the lawn. The Cane Island big-screen movie truck will be set up in the front parking lot. The movie will begin at 6pm. Bring your lawn chairs, or picnic blankets. Enjoy dinner from a variety of food trucks (proceeds will help our 5th grade party fund). We hope to see you there!



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

April 12th

5:30PM - Food Trucks Open  6:00PM - Movie Begins

Lights, Camera, Action!

Please join us for our 2nd Annual Family Movie Night on the lawn. The Cane Island big-screen movie truck will be set up in the front parking lot. The movie will begin at 6pm. Bring your lawn chairs, or picnic blankets. Enjoy dinner from a variety of food trucks (proceeds will help our 5th grade party fund). We hope to see you there!

Food Trucks:

- Bayou City Eats
- Volcano Splash
- That's My Dog
- Belly Wish (BBQ Tacos & Tinga Tacos)

A % of proceeds will benefit our 5th Grade Graduation Party Fund.

"Spectacular! A Must See!"

All children must be accompanied by an adult for the duration of the event.

QUESTIONS: [Tabitha Garcia bryantptaengagement@gmail.com](mailto:Tabitha.Garcia.bryantptaengagement@gmail.com)

"Parenting in the Digital Age" – April 30th

We are excited to offer "Parenting in the Digital Age" for Adults Only on Tuesday, April 30th in the LGI Room. Please make plans to join us and be sure and RSVP by April 23rd to hold your spot. These forms will be available in your child's take-home folder on the 17th.