

Birkes Barker

PTO Newsletter
September 24, 2018

Birkes Elementary
Stacie Everson, Principal

Upcoming Events www.birkespto.com

Sept. 25 First Chocolate Pick-up - 5-7pm
Sept. 25 Watch Dog Night - 6:30-7pm
Sept. 28 Yearbook Deadline for free icons
Oct. 1 Texas Roadhouse Spirit Night 4pm- close
Oct. 2 Custodian Appreciation Day
Oct. 3 Second Chocolate Pick-up - 5:30-6:30pm
Oct. 8 Parent Conference Day, No School
Oct. 10 Fall Picture Day
Oct. 10 Third Chocolate Pick-up - 5:30-6:30pm
Oct. 10 Slim Chickens Spirit Night
Oct. 12 Spirit Shop
Oct. 15 CFISD VIPS Lunch and Learn @ the Berry Center (Registration Required)
Oct. 17 All Chocolate Fundraiser Money due - 5:30 - 7:30pm
Oct. 18 Bear Creek Skate Night 6-8pm
Oct. 24/25 Hearing and Vision Screening
Oct. 25 Chick fil A Spirit Night (5th grade teachers to host) 5-8pm
Oct. 26 Teacher Appreciation Lunch - Halloween Candy Bar
Oct. 26 First Box Tops Contest Deadline
Nov 7 Nature Trails Training (3rd and 5th)

See VIPS section for Animal Demo Trainings

President's Corner

Birkes Families,

We are so excited about our **Believe Kids** chocolate bars fundraiser! If you choose to opt out of the fundraiser, but would still like to support our school, you still can!! Donate an amount of \$30 dollars up to \$120 dollars and your student can still participate in receiving prizes. This year we are so excited to raise money for a new fence around the outdoor classroom. This addition will keep all our kids **safe** during outdoor classroom time, as all grades get to use this area.

Have you visited the Birkes PTO website? Go to www.birkespto.com to find out what events are coming up, your teacher's "Favorite things," the online store and more! The site is being updated daily. You can also check out different ways to volunteer. Sign-ups are always posted on the site. Joining the PTO doesn't obligate you to be a volunteer. We do appreciate everyone who is able to take their spare time to support Birkes. Volunteers always help keep the school ready with helping hands.

Thank you to all of our amazing volunteers who have been able to help! We look forward to seeing more new faces. Your love and compassion for the school and students is seen in everything you do!!

Our Birkes Volunteers are amazing!!

Vicky Spurgin, PTO President

2018-2019 PTO Board

Vicky Spurgin President
vickyes10@yahoo.com

Kelly Bay 1st VP Membership/Website
kellyjordanbay@yahoo.com

Joanna Detwiler 2nd VP Academic Enrichment
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Jennifer Roberts 3rd VP Spirit Shop
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Tamiko Bennett Hospitality/Teacher Appreciation
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Vicky Spurgin Yearbook
birkesbulldogyearbook@gmail.com

The workroom and library
could use your help any day
you have some time.

Keep updated at

Birkes Elementary PTO/VIPs
Facebook Page

www.birkespto.com

Remind 101 - Text 81010 and put @birkespto
in the message line to sign up

VIPS

Annual PTO Membership Drive Ending Soon!!

Have you registered on the Birkes PTO website and paid your \$10 donation yet?? Time is running out if you want your student(s) to be able to participate in our exciting "Cookie Celebration". Sign up by **Friday, September 28** for your student(s) to be included and receive their ticket to join the celebration. They won't want to miss out! Sign up here: www.birkespto.com - log in or register, update your family information and pay online!

Flyers were sent home with all students last week with more information. Your \$10 donation is directly spent on the students and will allow more educational experiences. These student-focused activities include Mother Goose reading to the Kindergarten students, guest authors, Little Beakers on campus.

By joining the PTO, you are under no obligation to volunteer or do anything more. But if you'd like to volunteer and get more involved, we sure would love to have you! Many volunteer opportunities allow you to be at the school - and the students sure do love to see their parents there! But we also have opportunities to help out and make a difference that can be done from home!

With your membership, you also receive instant access to our online directory. This is great for parent contact information, school events, school parties - also for activities outside of Birkes (kids birthday parties, play dates, etc).

Signing up for PTO Membership is one of the easiest ways to make a difference and support Birkes' bulldogs!

As always, thank you for all of your support!

Minor Fundraising

October Spirit Nights

Texas Roadhouse (1960 and 290) **Mon., Oct. 1st** - kids eat free!
Skate Night - Bear Creek Roller Rink!! **Thurs., Oct. 18th** 6-8pm
Admission is only \$5!

Class with the highest attendance wins the Golden Skate

Slim Chickens - **Wed., Oct. 10, 5-8pm**

Chick-fil-a (Hwy 6) - **Thurs., Oct. 25th** from 5-8pm. Fifth grade teachers will be hosting. (Drive thru orders count too!)

Amazon Smile and Kroger

If you shop Amazon Prime you can go to <https://smile.amazon.com> and look for our Birkes Elementary Parent-Teacher Organization in drop down list to support our school. Your Kroger shopping card can also be linked to Birkes PTO to give back a portion of your grocery bill.

School Supplies

Thanks so much for your school supply orders. All have been delivered to classrooms and put to good use. If you need a 4th or 5th grade supply kit or never found the 12x18" white, manila or multi-color construction paper, let me know. We have some you can purchase. We will have the order forms for 2019-2020 sent out at the end of the school year.

Thanks for supporting our fabulous school!

Thanks for reading our newsletter - text Vicky at 575-921-6183 with the message "Birkes Rules!" to be entered to win a spirit item.

Major Fundraising

Please mark your calendars for the Believe Kids chocolate fundraiser pick up dates! All located in the school's library!

Just sell one case of mixed variety chocolate bars (60ct.) at \$1.00 each and your child will be awarded with a Bahama Bucks shaved ice treat. Sell more cases for chances to win more awesome prizes.

The top seller gets to be "Principal for the Day."

Tuesday, September 25th, 5-7pm

If you already signed up, then your chocolate will be waiting for you. If you would like to check out 1 or 2 cases to sell (and did not already sign up) please feel free to come and sign one out. No need to pay up front. Just turn in the collected money after selling the chocolates.

Wednesday, October 3rd, 5:30-6:30pm

If you have sold your case, you can turn in the \$60.00 and check out another case if you wish. Or, you can sign out a case for the first time. Once again, you pay nothing up front.

Wednesday, October 10th, 5:30-6:30pm

If you have sold your case, you can turn in the \$60.00 and check out another case if you wish. Or, you can sign out a case for the first time. Once again, you pay nothing up front.

Wednesday, October 17th, 5:30-7:30pm - Final Day!

Please turn in all of your collected money. Any unsold chocolate is your responsibility.

Contact Cindy Hogue with questions at cindymariend@yahoo.com.

Box Tops Contest

The students who turn in a minimum of 25 Box Tops by October 26th will receive a coupon to Urban Air to jump an hour for free. The top winner will receive a stuffed bulldog as a prize.

Remember to label your bags of 25 or 50 with child's name, Teacher, and grade!!



Help Raise
FREE MONEY
for
Birkes Elementary

 You shop. Amazon gives.
Use this Link & Select Birkes PTO

 Link Your Card to Birkes Every AUGUST

 Clip & Submit Them to the School

 Clip & Submit the Proof of Purchase Label to the School

Yearbook

Order your yearbook today!!! You have until October 26th to buy your yearbook for \$25 dollars and receive 4 free icons with a purchase of \$6 personalization. After October 26th you will have to pay for each Icon. GET THIS GREAT DEAL WHILE IT LASTS!!! Please upload your first day of school photos or other school related photos to www.replayit.com. There is also a Replay It App available that should be up and running soon.

Order your yearbook at www.jostens.com .

Volunteer Hours

As you volunteer, we request that you log your service hours into the Volunteer Raptor System. Since for some it is not a user-friendly interface, we ask that you *also* log your hours in a VIPS binder at the front desk. This ensures both you AND Birkes get the credit for those hours and that Birkes does not lose hundreds of hours (equating to school grant money) due to system issues. Let us know if you have system login problems...we'll help get it resolved!!

To get a Raptor account, sign up here

<https://www.cfid.net/en/parents-students/parent-involvement/volunteer/>

Teacher Appreciation

Each month, the Hospitality team treats the staff and faculty to a delicious luncheon. But, to make it a success, we need help from parents like YOU! Please check the Birkes Elementary PTO/VIPs page or www.birkespto.com for details each month. Emails will be sent out to PTO members. A Signup Genius will be available, where you can sign up for items needed for the luncheon. Please label your items "Hospitality" and deliver them to the front desk yourself or through your student. The next one is Oct. 26th- Halloween Candy Bar.

Contact Tamiko Bennett with questions.

Your generosity is GREATLY appreciated!

Spirit Shop

Volunteers are always welcome at the monthly Spirit Shop. September's shop was very popular and busy! Join us Oct. 12 for the next one. Thanks for reading our newsletter - text Vicky at 575-921-6183 with the message "Go Bulldogs!" to be entered to win a spirit item.

VIPS (Volunteers in Public Schools)

As the new school year is underway, so are the opportunities where you can help make a difference in the lives of Birkes staff, teachers, and students!! If you have some free time, we would greatly appreciate your help in the ways listed that will benefit Birkes directly.

We've included the Sign Up Genius links and hope you can join us during October's volunteer needs. The critical need is for the Hearing and Vision Screenings because Birkes needs to screen Pre-K, K, 1st, 3rd, and 5th grades...5 different grade levels in 2 days. So, we need your help to help our Birkes kiddos!!

*All SRC Demo Training Classes take place at 11206 Telge Rd., 281-897-4004 (adults only) unless otherwise noted *

**If you attend any SRC training classes, please email Joanna Detwiler (jojobytez@yahoo.com) for demo arrangements **

As always, thank you so much for all you do for Birkes!!

October 2018:

Oct 02 (Tue) 9:30 am - 11:30 am SRC Training - Pre-K/PPCD Opossums
Oct 10 (Wed) 9:30 am - 11:30 am SRC Training - 5th Grade Mammal Skulls
Oct 12 (Fri) 8:00 am - 2:30 pm Spirit Shop

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f44a4ac23a1fd0-monthly>

Oct 15 (Mon) 11:30 am - 1:00 pm CFISD VIPS Lunch & Learn (Berry Center)

Registration required. See link for more details.

<https://www.cfid.net/en/community-involvement/community-engagement/volunteer/vips-calendar1/>

Oct 16 (Tue) 9:30 am - 11:30 am SRC Training - 1st Grade Eggs and Nests
Oct 24 (Wed) 8:45 am - 12:00 pm Hearing and Vision Screenings
12:00 pm - 3:00 pm Hearing and Vision Screenings

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f44a4ac23a1fd0-hearing1>

Oct 24 (Wed) 9:30 am - 11:30 am SRC Training - 5th Grade Bird Study Skins
Oct 25 (Thu) 8:45 am - 12:00 pm Hearing and Vision Screenings
12:00 pm - 3:00 pm Hearing and Vision Screenings

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f44a4ac23a1fd0-hearing1>

Oct 26 (Fri) 9:30 am - 11:30 am SRC Training - 4th Grade Galveston Bay Ecology

November 2018:

Nov 01 (Thu) 9:30 am - 11:30 am SRC Training - Kindergarten Guinea Pigs
Nov 07 (Wed) 10:00 am - 11:30 am SRC Nature Trails Outdoor Training for 3rd Grade
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm SRC Nature Trails Outdoor Training for 5th Grade
3rd and 5th grade trainings are held at 13500 Shaft Dr., Cypress, TX 77429 (behind Millsap Elementary)
(Birkes' Nature Trails Field Trip Days are Dec 10, 11 & 12, 2018)

https://www.cfid.net/download_file/view/26977/400/