

Birkes Barker

PTO Newsletter
Dec 2018/Jan 2019

Birkes Elementary
Stacie Everson, Principal

Upcoming Events www.birkespto.com

Dec 3 Texas Roadhouse Spirit Night (4pm-10pm)
Dec 5 Freddy's Spirit Night
December 10 & 11 - Nature Trails/3rd Grade
December 10, 11 & 12 - Nature Trails/5th Grade
Dec 12 Urban Air Spirit Night (6-8 pm)
Dec 13-14 Holiday Market (in place of Spirit Shop)
Dec 13 Slim Chickens (5pm-9pm)
Dec 20 Chick fil A Spirit Night (Hwy 6 @ West Rd) (5pm-8pm)
Dec 20 Teacher Appreciation - Cookies and Cocoa
Dec 21 Holiday Parties Pre-K, K, 1st and 2nd (9:30am-10:15am)
Dec 21 Holiday Parties 3rd, 4th, and 5th (10:45am-11:30am)
Dec 21 Lost and Found sent to local charity
Dec 22-Jan 6 Winter Break (no school)
Jan 7 Classes Resume
Jan 7 Texas Roadhouse Spirit Night (4pm-10pm)
Jan 11 Spirit Shop
Jan 17 Chick fil A Spirit Night (Hwy 6 @ West Rd) (5pm-8pm)
Jan 18 Teacher Appreciation - Nacho Bar
Jan 22 Willie's Spirit Night (4pm-close)
Jan 24 Homeroom Class Picture Day
Jan 25 PTO VIPS Refresher Meeting 9:30 am

President's Corner

Hi Birkes Community,

As our Adventure in 2018 is coming to a close and our school year continues in 2019, I want to take the time to reflect on our Birkes community.

To our teachers and staff, thank you for putting your time and heart into all of our kids. For over eight hours a day, you help mold them, not only with education, but through guidance on how to be wonderful people. Your selfless dedication to our children, school and community are very much appreciated.

To our amazing volunteers, THANK YOU! Our volunteers are the life blood of our PTO. Without you, events such as Family Fun Night, Spirit Nights, and Book Fair wouldn't be possible. Our volunteers vary from those that can lend a hand once a month to those that are at Birkes daily with the same goal in mind, helping your students be the best they can be. You all know who you are, and we appreciate you tremendously. We do not have an abundance of volunteers and it takes a village to help make things happen. We have a great village that is full of heart. **We are in need of new volunteers to help grow our organization.** This is an opportunity for you to be involved with your child's school.

There is still another semester to the school year and we look forward to meeting new volunteers and the opportunity to help our school grow with all the fun events and fundraisers in the spring.

To our whole Birkes community, thank you for helping our school grow! Your help throughout the school year through participation and support of our fundraisers helps our school tremendously!! Supplies purchased keep our students' education up to date as well as experiences, safety and fun. With more than 1,100 students at our school your help goes a long way! One family helps make a difference, but a community can make a huge impact!

2018-2019 PTO Board

Vicky Spurgin President
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I hope everyone has the chance to slow down and hug your loved ones, enjoy all the small moments as much as the big ones and remember to help a neighbor. Kindness is a gift everyone can enjoy and an everlasting gift that should be spread all year long. We all rise by lifting others.

Happy Holidays and A Happy New Year from my family to yours and from the PTO Board!

Vicky Spurgin
PTO President

Our volunteers of the month for
October

Tina Lotin and Tabatha Guerra
Thank you for your hard work.

Membership

Birkes PTO is currently at 561 members - how exciting! It's not too late to join. Just visit www.birkespto.com and sign in or register and pay your \$10 donation. All donations go directly to educational and fun student experiences. Thank you for continuing to support our precious Bulldogs!

Spirit Shop

Holiday Market! Thursday Dec. 13th and Friday Dec. 14th. All students will be able to shop for family and friends during lunch. We will have a preview day Monday Dec. 10th. This is where the students can come up to the stage at lunch and see what will be offered during Holiday Market. A price list and savings envelope will be sent home on 12/10. We always need volunteers, especially during Holiday Market. It is a huge event and takes a lot of work. Please feel free to contact with any questions. jennaroberts24@outlook.com

Yearbook

Yearbook is \$25 dollars!!

Get your Yearbook and save money now!! www.jostens.com

5th Grade Ads will be going on sale for \$15 dollars. You will have until Feb 11th to order the Ad. This is for 5th Grade only.

Do you have a business and you would like to have an Ad in the yearbook or be a school sponsor? We would love to partner with you and help support your business. Please contact Vicky Spurgin if you are interested.

Holiday Parties

Friday, December 21st

Pre-K, K, 1st and 2nd 9:30-10:15 (Set up 9:15-9:30)

3rd, 4th, 5th 10:45-11:30 (Set up 10:30-10:45)

Minor Fundraising

December Spirit Nights

Texas Roadhouse - (1960 & 290) Mon, Dec 3rd 4pm-10pm Kids Eat Free! 15% goes back to Birkes

Freddy's - (Copperfield - FM 529) Wed, Dec 5th 5-9pm and 20% goes back to Birkes

Urban Air -(290 & Hempstead Rd.) Wed, Dec 12th 6-8pm 30% goes back to Birkes

Slim Chickens- (Barker Cypress) Thurs, Dec. 13th 5-9pm 20% back to Birkes

Chick-fil-a - (Hwy 6) Thurs, Dec. 20th 5-8pm 1st grade teachers to host - drive thru counts also!

January Spirit Nights

Texas Roadhouse - (1960 and 290) Mon, Jan. 7th 4pm-10pm - kids eat free! 15% back to Birkes

Chick-fil-a - (Hwy 6) Thurs, Jan. 17th from 5-8pm. 3rd grade teachers will be hosting. (Drive thru counts too!)

Willie's - (Copperfield - Hwy 6 location) Tues, Jan. 22 4pm-close, 15% goes back to Birkes, MUST verify Birkes is on receipt

Thank you to everyone participating and going out to our spirit nights! In November we had success at the following Spirit Nights - Rustic Brush, Texas Roadhouse, Outback Steakhouse, Chick-fil-a, and Willie's! We had a large amount of participation in Texas Roadhouse Rolls, Butter and Gift Cards ordered. Both were an awesome contribution to holiday meals and a good fundraiser for our Bulldogs!

If you shop **Amazon**, please consider going to <https://smile.amazon.com/> and look for Birkes Elementary Parent-Teacher Organization in drop down list to support our school with your holiday purchases! Your **Kroger** card can also be linked to Birkes PTO to give money back to our school from your weekly grocery trip!

Box Tops

We have raised over \$900 in box tops submissions! Please continue to send in bags of 25 or 50 with your child's name and teacher's name on them! We will be having more drawings for gift cards for Box Tops! Thank you to Chloe Gonzalez (3rd grade) for bringing in the most box tops for the last contest - 157!

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.

Use this link to set up an account to log hours.

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



VIPS (Volunteers in Public Schools)

Birkes Bulldog Volunteers ROCK!! Without you, Birkes would not be able to give so much to our staff and kids!! Two such individuals who gave their time to help Birkes are Tina Lotin and Tabatha Guerra!! Congratulations, Ladies, for being the October Volunteers of the month!! Thank you for all you do!!

The Nature Trails and SRC trainings were a hit and we're ready for December's Nature Trails Field Days...3rd and 5th graders' Nature Trails Adventure Awaits!!

If you find you can offer some time to assist, we need you!! Both Library and Workroom would love your offering of time and you are very much appreciated!!

And please don't forget...volunteer hours help Birkes in additional funding. Therefore, we are grateful to you for taking the time to fill out both the online Raptor System (<https://www.cfisd.net/en/> => Community Involvement => Volunteer => Log Volunteer Hours => "continue" going to apps.raptortech.com => Volunteer Portal [then login with your username]) and the Volunteer Binder at the front desk. If you're unable to offer your time in the school, please check to see if some of the Workroom Work can be taken home...that's valuable time you're offering, as well!! Thank you.

Please keep in mind the following December and January dates. We would love to have your help.

December 2018:

Dec		Fifth Grade Paw Print Fundraiser - no deadline...get one for your 5th grader today!!
Dec 04 (Tue)	9:30 am - 11:30 am	SRC Training - 2nd Grade Snakes
Dec 10 - 12 (M-W)	8:00 am - 3:00 pm	Nature Trails Field Day for 3 rd and 5 th Grades - 3 rd Grade volunteers can sign up via https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0444aaa82ca0fe3-3rdgrade and 5 th Grade volunteers can sign up via https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0444aaa82ca0fe3-5thgrade1
Dec 12 (Wed)	9:30 am - 11:30 am	SRC Training - Kindergarten Hedgehogs
Dec 13 - 14 (Th-F)	8:00 am - 2:30 pm	Holiday Market Spirit Shop - https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f44a4ac23a1fd0-monthly
Dec 14 (Fri)	9:30 am - 11:30 am	SRC Training - 1st Grade Small Mammals
Dec 18 (Tue)	9:30 am - 11:30 am	SRC Training - Pre-K/PPCD Animal Friends

January 2019:

Jan		Fifth Grade Paw Print Fundraiser - no deadline...get one for your 5th grader today!!
Jan 09 (Wed)	9:30 am - 11:30 am	SRC Training - 3rd Grade Arthropods
Jan 11 (Fri)	8:00 am - 2:30 pm	Spirit Shop - https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f44a4ac23a1fd0-monthly
Jan 15 (Tue)	9:30 am - 11:30 am	SRC Training - Kindergarten Hedgehogs
Jan 17 (Thu)	9:30 am - 11:30 am	SRC Training - 2nd Grade Body Coverings
Jan 24 (Thu)	9:30 am - 11:30 am	SRC Training - 1st Grade Small Mammals
Jan 25 (Fri)	9:30 am - 10:30 am	PTO VIPS Refresher Breakfast (cafeteria)
Jan 29 (Tue)	9:30 am - 11:30 am	SRC Training - 2nd Grade Body Coverings

Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students)

Sign up here to volunteer

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0444aaa82ca0fe3-watch>