

# THE PAW PRINT

Mrs. Stacie Everson, Principal

November 2, 2020 [www.cfisd.net](http://www.cfisd.net)



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As we approach the close of the first marking period, our district continues to evaluate our Lead Safely Plan to identify areas needing modification and adjustment. CFISD feels it is essential to continue to provide parents with the choice of on-campus or remote (CFISD Connect) learning for their children at the end of each grading period. This choice for parents, however, does not come without challenges for our campuses. Our district has determined that one area in need of immediate attention is additional planning and preparation time for our classroom teachers. CFISD teachers are committed to providing quality instruction for their students and are working harder than ever to teach students both in-person and remotely.

**To address the need for additional planning time for teachers, CFISD has identified the following dates as remote learning days from home for all students:**

**November 3, December 11, January 15, February 12, March 12, April 12, May 17**

(See revised [2020-2021 CFISD Instructional Calendar](#))

November 3, Election Day, is identified as the first remote learning day from home due to Harris County designating many of our campuses as polling centers. You may recall that November 3 was originally identified as a student holiday but changed to a student instructional day when we delayed the start of the school year from August 24 to September 8 without adding student days to the calendar. Early voting has seen unprecedented numbers of people heading to the polls this week. This trend is likely to continue, and for the safety and security of our students and staff, we feel it is critical to reduce the number of people reporting to campuses on Election Day.

### **Remote Learning Days Plan:**

**On-Campus Learning students** (who will be learning from home on these days) will:

- Receive paper packets and assignments to be completed and turned in.
- Not need devices (Chromebooks, laptops, internet) in order to complete the assignments.
- Have attendance taken by showing evidence of completing assignments.

**CFISD Connect students** (who will remain at home) will:

- Learn through pre-recorded lessons and posted assignments.
- Not have check-ins by their teachers or participate in live instruction.
- Have attendance taken by showing evidence of completing assignments and/or logging into Schoology.

Parents, thank you for your support this year and the grace you have afforded our campus administration, and especially our teachers, who have learned an entirely new mode of instruction. We appreciate everyone's patience as we continue to make changes that we believe will have a positive impact on both our students and staff.

## ELECTION DAY

**November 3, 2020**

Birkes has been designated as a polling place for the General Elections on Tuesday, November 3.

The voting will be taking place in our library and voters will enter through the library entrance on the south side of the building.



## PICTURE RETAKES – NOVEMBER 18

**You must return your student's packet to have retakes done.**

On retake day, Wednesday, November 18, Lifetouch will photograph the students that have switched to face-to-face learning.

Lifetouch will also photograph virtual students during after school hours, at **BIRKES**, on Wednesday, November 18. **Appointments will be made online. More information coming soon.**

**Thanksgiving Holidays  
November 23 - 27  
Please mark your calendar!**

## CHARACTER TRAIT

Our Character Trait for November is "GRATITUDE."  
Letting others know you see how they've helped you.

# FOOD DRIVE

November 9<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>

This year, our counselors will be helping to facilitate our annual Birkes Food Drive. We will be collecting the following items for donations to families in our community. Each grade level is assigned a specific item to bring. If you do not have this particular item, please feel free to send whatever is convenient.

Pre-K & Kdg.	canned goods (fruits & vegetables )
1 <sup>st</sup> grade	dry goods (rice, pasta, stuffing )
2 <sup>nd</sup> grade	peanut butter & jelly
3 <sup>rd</sup> grade	paper goods (toilet tissue, paper towels, facial tissue, napkins)
4 <sup>th</sup> grade	canned soup
5 <sup>th</sup> grade	cereal

**No glass containers, please!**

The donated items will often go to help children in our own school. All donations are welcome.

Thanks,  
Denise Patrick & Romicka Johnson, Counselors

## SPELLING BEE INFORMATION

The qualifying test for our Campus Spelling Bee will be held on Thursday, December 3rd on campus. Participation is for students in grades 3-5 and is optional. If your student would like to participate in the qualifying test, please email Mrs. Bruns by December 1st at [kristi.bruns@cfisd.net](mailto:kristi.bruns@cfisd.net) for more information.

## MARK YOUR DECEMBER CALENDAR

Dec. 2	Kids Heart Challenge – red & blue PE groups
Dec. 3	Kids Heart Challenge – green & yellow PE groups
Dec. 4	All money due for Kids Heart Challenge
Dec. 7	Texas Roadhouse Spirit Night
Dec. 16 – all day	Willie's Spirit Night - Copperfield
Dec. 17 – all day	Willie's Spirit Night - Copperfield
Dec. 18	Lost & Found to local charity
Dec. 21 – Jan. 1	Winter Holidays
Jan. 4	School resumes

## GT NOMINATION WINDOW

Parents who would like to nominate their child for testing for the Horizons Gifted and Talented program may do so from now until November 30, 2020. To nominate your child, parents must complete and return a *Parent Survey and Permission to Test* form by the November 30<sup>th</sup> deadline. This form is available from the campus front desk or can be requested through your child's teacher or counselor. Testing will be in January or February 2021. For those students who qualify in Kindergarten, services will begin on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. For those students who qualify in grades 1-5, services will begin in the 2021-2022 school year. For more information about the Horizons program and the referral process, please refer to the following link:

<https://www.cfisd.net/en/parents-students/academics/gifted-talented>

## KIDS HEART CHALLENGE

Mark your calendar! Kids Heart Challenge will be Wednesday, December 2 for red and blue PE groups and Thursday, December 3 for green and yellow PE groups.

All money collected will be due by Friday, December 4. More information will be sent home soon.

**We are thankful for  
our Birkes families!**




# Birkes Elementary



## November 2020



Approximately 350 lunches served daily!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <b>Daylight Saving Time ends</b>	2 <b>Texas Roadhouse Spirit Night</b>	3 <b>Remote learning day from home for all students.</b> 	4	5	6 <b>End of 1<sup>st</sup> nine weeks</b>	7
8 <b>Birkes Elem. 8500 Queenston Blvd. Houston, TX 77095 Ph. #281-345-3300 Fax #281-345-3305</b>	9 <b>Food Drive begins</b>	10	11 <b>Veterans Day We honor, salute, and thank you!</b>	12 <b>Last day to order Texas Roadhouse rolls and gift cards.</b>  <b>www.Birkes PTO.com</b>	13	14
15 <b>School Hours: 8:40 – 4:10 We open our doors at 8:20. If you drop your child off before 8:20, there is no supervision.</b>	16 <b>Report Cards go home</b>	17	18 <b>Retakes – You must return your student's packet to have retakes done.</b>  <b>Willie's Spirit Night – all day Copperfield</b>	19 <b>Willie's Spirit Night – all day Copperfield</b>	20 <b>Nov. 20 2pm-7pm Texas Roadhouse roll/gift card pick up</b>	21
22 <b>Lunch Schedule</b> PK – 11:00-11:30 K – 11:00-11:30 1 <sup>st</sup> – 12:00-12:30 2 <sup>nd</sup> – 11:30-12:00 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 1:30-2:00 4 <sup>th</sup> – 1:00-1:30 5 <sup>th</sup> – 12:30-1:00	23 <b>10am-5pm Texas Roadhouse roll/gift card pick up</b>	24 <b>10am-5pm Texas Roadhouse roll/gift card pick up</b>	25 <b>9am-8pm Texas Roadhouse roll/gift card pick up</b>	26 <b>Texas Roadhouse is closed today.</b>	27 <b>Food Drive ends</b>	28
29	30 <b>School resumes</b>	<b>Student Holidays – Nov. 23 - 27</b> <b>We are thankful for our Birkes Families!</b>				

On retake day, Wednesday, November 18, Lifetouch will photograph the students that have switched to face-to-face learning.

Lifetouch will also photograph virtual students during after school hours, at BIRKES, on Wednesday, November 18. Appointments will be made online. More information coming soon.

**Food Drive - November 9 - 20**



# November 2020



## Family Fitness Daily Movement Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>1 Skill Practice</b> Dribble any ball 100 times with your dominant hand. Switch and do another 100 dribbles with your non-dominant hand.</p>	<p><b>2 Total Body</b> 10 squats 10 push-ups 10 walking lunges 10 Jumping jacks Repeat</p>	<p><b>3 Jog</b> Go for a jog at a good steady pace for 15 minutes. Try to do it without stopping, but stop if you need to.</p>	<p><b>4 Push Ups!</b> See how many push-ups you can do. Take a 1 minute break and try again.</p>	<p><b>5 Locomotor Skills</b> Practice your locomotor movements by skipping 10 times, galloping 10 times, and sliding 10 times. Repeat for 15 minutes</p>	<p><b>6 Raise the Roof!</b> Do body squats and lift your arms over your head at the top of your squat. Do them until you are tired!</p>	<p><b>7 Shadow Boxing</b> Without touching anyone, punch down to the ground towards your own shadow.</p>
<p><b>8 Family Adventure</b> Go for a hike with your family today. Try to keep a vigorous pace and work up a sweat.</p>	<p><b>9 Create</b> Create a new game with a friend today using a ball.</p>	<p><b>10 The Jumping Leprechaun</b> Jump as high as you can, attempting to click your heels together underneath you. Repeat for 1 minute.</p>	<p><b>11 Tape It Front</b> Put a piece of tape on the ground and jump back and forth as quick as you can for 30 seconds. Repeat 10 times.</p>	<p><b>12 Rock, Paper, Scissor Tag</b> Meet in the middle, shoot, winner chases the loser back to safe zone. If tagged, join the other team.</p>	<p><b>13 Bike Ride</b> Go for a bike ride for at least 1 hour. Don't have a bike? Go for a walk/jog, or do bicycle crunches.</p>	<p><b>14 Dance</b> Put on your favorite song and make up a dance to it. Teach your dance to someone else. Perform it for an audience.</p>
<p><b>15 Jump Rope</b> See how many different ways you can jump rope. Can you do each one for 1 minute</p>	<p><b>16 Jumping Jacks</b> Execute jumping jacks for 1 minute without stopping. Take a break for 1 minute. During the break, do as many crunches as you can. Repeat for 15 minutes.</p>	<p><b>17 Walking</b> Go for a walk with a grandparent or adult relative who takes care of you.</p>	<p><b>18 Hopscotch</b> Make a hopscotch court and play with your family.</p>	<p><b>19 Play</b> Grab a few friends and play a few tag games like "Capture the Flag".</p>	<p><b>20 Run</b> See how fast you can run a mile. Have a family member time you</p>	<p><b>21 Catch</b> Practice your catching skills by catching a ball thrown to you by someone else.</p>
<p>22 <b>Holiday</b> Get outside and get moving!</p>	<p>23 <b>Holiday</b> Get outside and get moving</p>	<p>24 <b>Holiday</b> Get outside and get moving</p>	<p>25 <b>Holiday</b> Get outside and get moving</p>	<p>26 <b>Holiday</b> Get outside and get moving</p>	<p>27 <b>Holiday</b> Get outside and get moving</p>	<p>28 <b>Holiday</b> Get outside and get moving</p>
<p>29 <b>Inchworms</b> Keeping your legs straight place your hands on the ground, walk them into pushup position, then walk your legs back to your hands</p>	<p>30 <b>Jump Rope</b> Grab a jump rope and grab a friend. Take turns jumping rope. Jump rope until you miss before passing the rope to your friend</p>	<p><b>DAILY CHALLENGE: CFISD would like to challenge all families to incorporate more movement into their daily routine for a healthier lifestyle. For each daily activity, try to move consistently without stopping for at least 15 minutes. If you move for 20 minutes, GREAT! If you move for 30 minutes, EVEN BETTER! If you move for 60 minutes, AWESOME!!!</b></p> <p><b>So, grab a family member or a friend and GET MOVING TODAY!</b></p>				

# BIRKES BARKER

Team Birkes  
Stronger Together!



PTO WEBSITE: [www.birkespto.com](http://www.birkespto.com)

PTO FACEBOOK: Birkes Elementary PTO/VIPs

## YEARBOOK

Did you order a 2019-2020 yearbook and still need to pick it up? Our next available time to do so will be November 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:00pm, at the front of Birkes. Never ordered one and want one? Come purchase one during that same time for \$35.

Click here: <http://jostensyearbooks.com?ref=A01122869> to order your 2020-2021 yearbook.

We need your pictures! Please submit them for consideration for the yearbook by following these steps:

- 1) Click on this link: <https://images.jostens.com/415468563>
- 2) Upload your photo
- 3) Fill in your child's and enter important information in the description (grade and which activity/event)

## PTO BOARD/CHAIR OPEN POSITIONS

We have several positions available. Some will not be needed until we can go back to in person volunteering, but it's a great year to get your feet wet with a PTO Board or Chair position. Email [alison.birkespto@gmail.com](mailto:alison.birkespto@gmail.com)

- Board  
Major Fundraising  
(2) VIPS (Volunteer Coordinator)
- Chairpersons  
Major Fundraising  
Yearbook  
(2) SRC  
Art/Music

## HOSPITALITY

We will be providing coffee and yummy desserts to our teachers and staff on Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. We are also looking for people to donate packs of gum – please click the following link to sign up. We appreciate you! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D45AAA92BA0F94-weareextra>

## **MINOR FUNDRAISING**

### **November Spirit Nights**

*Texas Roadhouse* - (1960 and 290) Mon, Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> - kids eat free! 15% back to Birkes

*Willie's* - (Copperfield – Hwy 6 location) Nov 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2 days ALL DAY 11am- close, 15% goes back to Birkes, MUST verify Birkes is on receipt. In person and phone pick up orders. Do not order online for this offer.

- **Texas Roadhouse Rolls and Gift Cards**

It's so easy to raise money for Birkes this year with Texas Roadhouse. Send out the flyer to your friends and family to order Texas Roadhouse rolls, cinnamon Butter, and gift cards just in time for Thanksgiving. Each of your customers will fill out the online form and get an email from Texas Roadhouse with their pick up receipt. (Type in unknown for seller code, make sure the buyer knows the student's name and teacher.) See the flyer here:

[https://birkespto.membershiptoolkit.com/assets/00262/Flyer\\_-\\_Texas\\_Roadhouse\\_Rolls\\_Fundraiser.pdf](https://birkespto.membershiptoolkit.com/assets/00262/Flyer_-_Texas_Roadhouse_Rolls_Fundraiser.pdf)

- **Last day to order online is Thursday, Nov 12<sup>th</sup>.**

- **Pick up is at Texas Roadhouse**

Nov 20<sup>th</sup> (2pm-7pm)

Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> (10am- 5pm)

Nov 24<sup>th</sup> (10am-5pm)

Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> (9am-8pm)

They are closed Thanksgiving Day.

- **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.

- **Box Tops**

Box tops has changed their way to redeem. We will accept the ones you continue to find on foods but will begin to implement the new way to redeem effective immediately. Please follow the link for an instructional video, download the app, and scan your receipt from the store -

<https://youtu.be/Hh94b2BvFK4>

## **MEMBERSHIP**

By joining and participating in PTO, you help us make Birkes awesome! A huge 'THANK YOU' to the Bulldog parents who have already joined! We have so many families and staff members that are connected to improve our school. Remember, it's not too late to join PTO. You can log on to our website: <http://www.birkespto.com> and select "log in/register". Your membership dues are one of the few ways this year that we are able to collect funds to continue supporting our Bulldogs.