



# Belleair Elementary School Newsletter



**BELLEAIR ELEMENTARY**  
1156 LAKEVIEW ROAD  
CLEARWATER, FL 33756  
PHONE: (727) 469-5983  
FAX: (727) 469-5972

**PRINCIPAL:**  
**KELLY AUSTIN**

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL:**  
**RENEE KELLY**

**OCTOBER 2019**

## Principal's News

**Volume 1 Issue 2**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**October 14th**

No School

**October 16th**

PTA 3:30 p.m.

**October 28th**

SAC 3:30 p.m.

**November 1st**

Fall Festival

5:30-7:30

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Principals Letter	1
Multicultural News	2
Report Safety Concerns	2
Homework Hotline	2
Attendance Matters	3
Connect for Success	4
Internet Assist	4
PTA News	5
Uniform Reminder	5
Uniform Request	5
Volunteer News	6&7
PTA Membership	8
T-Shirt Order Form	8

Hello Belleair Families,

It's hard to believe we are entering October already! It's been a wonderful and smooth start to the 19/20 school year thanks to a wonderful staff, dedicated families, and hard-working scholars. It takes all of us working together to ensure 100% student success for all.

The last few weeks we have completed baseline testing to see where each and every scholar is in reading, writing, math, and science. Our goal is that all students make one year or more of learning gains in all subject areas. Your child's teacher should be contacting you soon to schedule a parent/teacher conference. Please make every effort to attend these important meetings to learn where your child is in their academic progress and what our plan is to help him/her achieve success.



Here are a few important safety reminders. Scholars may not be on Belleair's campus until 8:15 a.m. There is no supervision before this time. School lets out at 2:55 and all scholars should be picked up at this time. Our office closes at 3:15 and there is no adult supervision after this time. Thank you for helping us with these safety concerns.

Finally, I encourage you to foster a love of reading at home. Just like swimming and riding a bicycle, we get better by practicing. Reading works the same way. Scholars should be reading nightly with you. You can read to them, they can read to you, or you can take turns. Having a stuffed animal to read to is another fun way to enjoy books! If you are in need of books your child can read on their own, please contact his/her teacher to check out just right books.

We thank you for sharing your child with us each day!

Educationally yours,  
Kelly Austin  
Principal



[www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern](http://www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern)





## Multicultural News



The Multicultural Committee had their first meeting in September, and we made plans for our Hispanic Heritage Event which is on Thursday, October 10, 2019 at 5:00 pm. We hope you can join us for this festive event! We will provide an Hispanic dinner for our families followed by two wonder speakers that will discuss ways to deal with stress and Finance and Budget. We will finish the night off with a fabulous show performed by Ballet Folklorico. We hope everyone will be able to attend this informative and entertaining event!



## Report a Safety Concern



Pinellas County Schools has partnered with Sandy Hook Promise to offer the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System. Say Something allows you to submit secure & anonymous safety concerns to help identify and intervene upon at-risk individuals BEFORE they hurt themselves or others. Tips made to the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System are passed along to the appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.

Visit the [Say Something Anonymous Reporting System](#)

Additionally, the district utilizes FortifyFL, a school-related suspicious activity reporting tool that allows Florida students and the community the ability to instantly relay information anonymously concerning unsafe, potentially harmful, dangerous, violent or criminal activities, or the threat of these activities, to the appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials. FortifyFL was created and funded by the 2018 Florida Legislature as part of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act.

Visit the [FortifyFL website](#)

## Homework Hotline Information



Pinellas County Schools Homework Helpline, (727)547-7223, offers free homework help for students in grades 1-12. The Homework Helpline is staffed by teachers certified in math, science, language arts and social studies. Help is available from 5 to 8 p.m., Monday through Thursday, on all school days, except when there is no school the following day.



# The Importance of Regular School Attendance

Michele Glenn, LCSW

Regular school attendance is essential for student success, even beginning in Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten. Early chronic absence can leave children unable to read well by the end of third grade. It can establish patterns of poor attendance and academic failure for older students, and increases the percentages of children who drop out of high school. Parents and

families are essential partners with their child's school in promoting good attendance because they, ultimately, have the "bottom-line" responsibility for making sure their child gets to school every day. Families often do not realize that attendance is important in Kindergarten, as it is in the higher grades. It is important that patterns of non-attendance do not develop, and that families build a healthy habit of daily school attendance right from the beginning. Children can quickly fall behind with their learning with frequent absences. Kindergartners who miss 10% or more of the school year, often have lower achievement in first grade, and for some, throughout elementary school. Even missing a day or two every few weeks can cause children to fall behind. Children do not do as well in school when they frequently miss part of or an entire school day. You can help your child succeed by understanding how schools define absences and learning ways to support your child's school attendance. An unexcused absence is when a child misses school for reasons not accepted by the school district. (The list of excused and unexcused absences is available in the Student Code of Conduct and is also available online. Parents and Guardians can help their child to be academically successful by ensuring regular school attendance and that their child is at school on time, every day.

## Strategies for Parents to Encourage Attendance:

1. Let your child know that your family values education. Tell your child that you believe he/she can make academic progress. Make education a family priority.
2. Insist that your child goes to school on time every day.
3. Talk with your child about school. Listen to your child's concerns. Ask how you can help.
4. Help your child develop personal interests and strengths. Connect those interests and strengths to what your child is doing in school.
5. Support your child's efforts with studying, completing homework, and working on academic skills and responsibilities.
6. Check your child's backpack and agenda daily.
7. Discuss concerns with your child's teacher and work together to support your child's school success. Attend Parent/Teacher conferences and other school meetings that are scheduled.
8. Be sure that your child knows that you do not approve of his/her being late for school.
9. Attend school functions, PTA meetings, and activities, etc. Be involved with your child's school.
10. Set a regular bedtime and morning routine. Lay out clothes and backpacks the night before.
11. Have your child relax before bedtime with a story, instead of the stimulation of television, video games, etc.
12. Have schoolwork and lunch ready and laid out and create a special folder for completed assignments. Provide regular study times and a quiet, clean area for doing homework.
13. Don't allow your child to stay home unless he/she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
14. If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, members of the school's Student Services Team (school counselors, school social workers, school psychologists, behavior specialists, school nurses) or other parents for advice on how to help/him/her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
15. Do not let your child persuade you into making excuses for him/her.



Kindergarten through fifth grade students at Belleair elementary school are eligible to check out a laptop for home use. These laptops are offered to you at no cost by the PCS Title 1 department to provide equal access to technology, promote student success, and to extend learning outside of the classroom.

Students can access online educational resources through **CLEVER** that help improve skills in reading, math, science, and social studies, such as iStation, DreamBox, myON, i-Ready, Sora, and so much more!

**Process:**

Parent/Guardian must complete C4S **paperwork**

Paperwork can be found on our school website or obtained from Ms. Crosley, Library Media Specialist

Parent/Guardian must provide a **government ID** (driver's license, state ID, military ID, or passport) to be **copied** when they turn-in completed paperwork

Student will be called down to get their computer by Ms. Crosley and she will make sure that they can log-in and connect to WIFI.

NOTE: WIFI is not provided by PCS. You can connect to your home WIFI or use the FREE WIFI provided at most restaurants, and public places.

Student **MUST return the laptop when requested** (in January, and May) **for updates and servicing**. The laptop will be returned to the student to bring back home within 1 week (provided that there are no major issues)

Students can keep their laptops over the summer, as well, provided they return them for their May servicing

For more information about Connect for Success, please contact Jennifer Crosley, Library Media Specialist at [crosleyj@pcsb.org](mailto:crosleyj@pcsb.org)

## **Spectrum Internet™ Assist**

### **Low-income families and seniors can get unlimited high-speed internet for just \$14.99 per month**

Through the Spectrum Internet Assist program, qualified households can receive:

- High-speed 30 Mbps Internet with no data caps
- Internet modem included
- No contracts required

Add in-home WiFi for \$5 more per month

Offer not valid for current Spectrum Internet subscribers or had a Spectrum Internet subscription within the last 6 months.

**NOTE:** The \$14.99 offer gives wired service and offers a wi-fi router for \$5 per month. You can purchase your own wi-fi router either from Amazon.com or RadioShack or any other electronics retailer. They are easy to set up and it will save you \$5 per month.

### **To qualify for Spectrum Internet Assist, a member of the household must be a recipient of one of the following programs:**

- The National School Lunch Program (NSLP); free or reduced cost lunch
- Seniors 65 and older who receive Supplemental Security Income

Programs that do not qualify for Spectrum Internet Assist: Social Security Disability (SSD), Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), and Social Security Retirement and Survivor Benefits are different from Supplemental Security Income and do NOT meet eligibility requirements.

**Important: Spectrum Internet Assist program is not for String, Smart TV.**

CALL 1-844-449-9859 or visit the website at: [charter.com/browse/content/spectrum-internet-assist](http://charter.com/browse/content/spectrum-internet-assist)

Hello Belleair families!

The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) has many activities scheduled this month! First of all, thank you to all those families working on the Fall Fundraiser! The funds we receive will help pay for the Fall Festival and other activities scheduled for the spring. We will also be selling Smencils at the front gate later in October. Look for more details to come.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, October 16 at 3:30. If you are interested in connecting with other parents, helping plan fun events for Belleair students and staff, and working to make our community a better place, please consider join us! Your children are welcome at the meetings and a Spanish translator is usually in attendance.

As always, remember to clip those Box Tops! They are digital now and can be “clipped” by downloading the Box Top app and scanning your receipts. Clipping Box Tops is an easy way to contribute to the Belleair Elementary School community.

Finally, the Fall Festival is Friday, November 1 from 5:30 - 7:30. It will be a fun evening for your entire family! If you are interested in helping volunteer at (or before) the festival or donating small carnival prizes or candy, please email me at [kristy.ferrell@gmail.com](mailto:kristy.ferrell@gmail.com).

All the best,  
Kristy Ferrell

## School Uniform Reminder

Our staff and parents voted on school uniforms. Please make sure your student is wearing the approved uniform every day. The approved colors are...

4 different color collared shirts

\* Yellow \* Navy Blue \* Light Blue \* White

2 different color pants/shorts/skirts

\* Navy Blue \* Khaki



Belleair T-shirts can be worn Fridays for Spirit days! Belleair T-shirts can be purchased at school for \$10.00.

Jeans can be worn on Fridays provided that they are BLUE OR BLACK ONLY and they cannot have any holes or tears. Jeggings are NOT allowed and are not considered school appropriate but can be worn under skirts

**We Need YOU**

## Uniform Donation Request



Calling all Belleair Tiger families! We are in need of uniform donations. Do you have a scholar that has gone on to Middle School or has outgrown their uniforms? Please consider donating new or gently used uniforms to our front office for a child in need.

# Volunteer News

---

## Volunteer Recognition

I want to recognize the Volunteers of the Month:

Irene Davis and Ashley Stephens



Volunteer Irene Davis

Intern Ashley Stephens



A special thanks to our volunteer Irene Davis and Intern Ashley Stephens for always going above and beyond in serving not only Ms. Miller but our school. Thank you!

# Community Business Partner of the Month: Church of Ascension



A special thank you to Church of Ascension for donating school supplies and giving us a check for \$500 for any items we may need. Their constant support with tiger tutors, donations, and prayers has been an amazing support to our school. We thank you and appreciate you from the bottom of our hearts.

Thank You, Sponsors!

## **Thank you to the following Business Partners for your generous support!** **We appreciate you!**

1. Dale C. Christensen Family Foundation Inc
2. Publix Super Market at Clearwater Plaza
3. Town of Belleair
4. Culver's of Clearwater
5. First United Methodist Church -Pack a Sack
6. Sam's Club #6420
7. Starbucks
8. Wendy's Store 8960
9. Texas Roadhouse
10. Jams Produce
11. Our Savior Lutheran Church
12. Softee the King
13. Duke Energy
14. Panera Bread
15. Puerto Rico Connect
16. First United Methodist Church of Clearwater
17. Skyline Chili Clearwater
18. Rotary Club of Belleair
19. Church of Ascension
20. MetroLife Church
21. Costco Wholesale
22. T- Mobile
23. Latinos Energizing Diversity
24. Office Depot – 1660 S. Missouri Avenue Clearwater, Florida -Mario Nicoletti

# Belleair PTA Membership Form

PTA implements and supports programs and activities for our students including:  
Open House\* Walk to School \* Fall Festival \* FSA Snacks \* Black History and  
Multicultural Celebrations \* Spring Fling \* Belleair Community Flea Market \* In  
Memory Of Plaques \* School walkway paint lines/paws \* Publix Cakes for Moth-  
er's Day \* Carnations \* School Sprit Wear\* Staff Appreciation \* End of Year Events  
\* and much more!

Membership is \$7.00 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed  
Thank you for your support!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



## Belleair PTA Shirt Order Form



T-Shirts \$10.00

Youth Sizes: X-Small, Small, Medium, Large    Adult Sizes: Small, Medium, Large, XL, XXL

Student's Name:

Size:

Teacher:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Parents may purchase shirts as well. Thank you for supporting our school!  
Shirts will be delivered to the student's classroom.