



# Belleair Elementary School Newsletter

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**TABITHA GRIFFIN**

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**RENEE KELLY**



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## Principal's News

Dear Parents/Guardians,  
Welcome to another wonderful school year at Belleair Elementary! We have had a few weeks to settle into the new school year, and we're pleased to share another year of learning. We want to assure you that we will do our best to help your child experience academic, social and emotional growth. We are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure that our students can achieve their fullest potential.

I'm proud of the fact that everything we do for students at our school is a team effort. This is why you will often hear us refer to our school as a "school family". We are confident that with your help as part of our Belleair family, this will be an excellent year. As you partner with us for the 2017-2018 school year, I wanted to share information about the start of the school year. This will be the first of many communications that will ensure that you are aware of school initiatives and ways to join us in supporting those initiatives.

This school year, Belleair Elementary has been designated as an L300 school due to the number of students who are reading proficiently in grades 3-5. One of our School Improvement Goals is to increase our Reading Proficiency to at least 50% of our students reading on grade level. We are currently, performing



at 32% of our 3rd-5th graders are reading on grade level. Parents, we need your help to improve reading at Belleair. You can help in the following ways:

- Complete the survey that is included in this newsletter on Family Engagement Activities that you would like to participate to support your child.
  - Make sure that you read to your child and/or your child reads for 30 minutes every single day
  - Ensuring your child is in school every day, on time, ready to learn
- Breakfast, New School Hours and Uniforms  
Doors open to all students at 8:00 a.m. to join us for breakfast. Breakfast is served from 8:00 until 8:35 am. If your child will be having breakfast at Belleair, then please make sure they arrive by 8:15 a.m. so they will have plenty of time to eat and get to class on time. The tardy bell rings at

Volume 8, Issue 6

8:35 a.m. and reading instruction begins promptly at 8:35 a.m. Instruction ends at 3:05 p.m. and students will be dismissed shortly after. We ask that you schedule any appointments after 3:30 or on days that students are not in school. School Uniforms During the 2013-2014 School year, parents voted "yes" for our school to adopt the use of school uniforms. Our school uniforms are:

Tops: Navy, light blue, yellow or white polo style shirts (no design)

Bottom: Navy blue or tan khaki pants. Girls may also wear navy blue or tan khaki skirts  
Please go to our school website <http://www.pcsb.org/Belleair-es>, or find us on Facebook (Belleair Elementary), if you would like to purchase school t-shirts and/or signature Belleair Polos. You can also find the link to purchase school gear on our Belleair Facebook page.

If you have a question about any thing that you have read in this newsletter or would like to volunteer, then please don't hesitate to give us a call at (727) 469-5983 or send me an email [Griffinta@pcsb.org](mailto:Griffinta@pcsb.org). Thank you and I look forward to working with you this year!

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Griffin*  
Principal  
Belleair Elementary

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### September 5th

Last day to turn in Fundraiser Orders

### September 8th

International Literacy Day  
Goodies for Grandparents  
7:30 am. To 8:30 am.

### September 18th

SAC meeting 3:30 pm.

### September 20th

PTA Meeting Time TBA

### October 2-10th

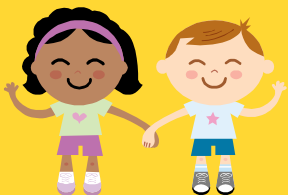
Book fair

### October 4th

Walk to School Day  
Meet at Publix at 7:30 am.  
Reading Support  
Workshop  
8:30 in the Media Center

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Principal News	1
Media Center News	2
Homework Hotline	2
Literacy Coach News	3
Multicultural News	3
Sponsor Thank you	3
Counselors Corner	4
Belleair's Best News	5
Veterans Day Info.	5
Promise Time Info.	5
Online T-Shirt Order	6
PTA News	7
PTA T-Shirt Form	7
Parent Survey	8





# Media Center News



A new school year has begun and there are many new things in the **Media Center**. Students are already coming to the library and using our “**MakerSpace**”. This is an area filled with magnets, building materials, art supplies and technology where the students are able to explore, create, and design on their own. Ask your students if they have come to the **MakerSpace** yet!

**Remember** parents are welcome in the media center as long as you stop by the office and obtain a visitor’s pass first.

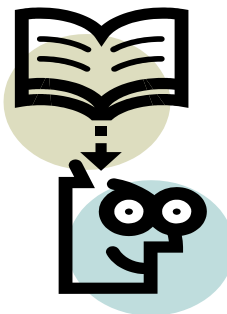
## ***Battle of the Books 2017-2018***

This year Belleair Elementary will participate in the Battle of the Books!!! Students in 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade are able to participate. Students must read from the list of SSYRA (Sunshine State Young Reader Award) Books. These books are available in our library, public libraries and online through our destiny system at

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

Below is this year’s list of SSYRA book titles to be included in Battle of the Books.

<b>Allie, First at Last</b> by Angela Cervantes	<b>Castle Hangnail</b> by Ursula Vernon
<b>A Dragon’s Guide to the Care and Feeding of Humans</b> by Laurence Yep/Joanna Ryder	<b>Framed</b> by James Ponti
<b>The Hero Two Doors Down</b> by Sharon Robinson	<b>Maxi’s Secrets: Or What You Can Learn From a Dog</b> by Lynn Plourde
<b>My Brother is a Superhero</b> by David Solomons	<b>Night of the Living Worms</b> by Dave Coverly
<b>Pugs of the Frozen North</b> by Philip Reeve and Sarah McIntyre	<b>Save Me a Seat</b> by Sara Weeks/ Gita Varadarajan
<b>Teddy Mars: Almost a World Record Breaker</b> by Molly Burnham	<b>The Vanishing Coin</b> by Kate Egan with Mike Lane
<b>A Whole New Ballgame</b> by Phil Bildner	<b>The Wild Robot</b> by Peter Brown
<b>Willy Maykit in Space</b> by Greg Trine	



## 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.



## News from our new Literacy Coach



### Greetings Belleair Families!

I am very excited to begin a new journey at Belleair Elementary this year in providing literacy support to our teachers and scholars. I have been a Belleair Tiger now for the past six years and have had the privilege of teaching many of your children. I am passionate about literacy and believe that teaching children to become lifelong readers and writers is an essential skill for becoming an adult. With that being said, I respect the literacy knowledge that you have as well. It is my goal to collaborate and develop relationships with our families to help achieve the goals you have established for your children. I look forward to working and learning along with you this year.

-Mrs. Love



## Multicultural News



It's the beginning of another exciting new year and we will be forming a new student leadership team PMAC (Principals Multicultural Advisory Committee). We will give each class-

room teacher in grades 3-5 a nomination form to choose two classroom representatives. These student leaders will attend monthly meetings which last 30 minutes. We will plan and facilitate school events that will help our students appreciate and value the wonderful diversity of our student population. Students nominated for the leadership team will be receiving a permission slip. Students should return this to Mrs. Hartnett or their classroom teacher.

## Thank you to our Sponsors

All of these wonderful people and places have donated school supplies to our students and staff this year.



Church of the Ascension



# COUNSELOR CORNER



Michele Morehouse, School Counselor

## Welcome Back! Let's make it a great year!.

Another School year is upon us! As with any new year, many changes infiltrate our routines, and this year is no different. To help ensure your child finds success in this year, here are some tips and information to consider:

- **Communicate with your child's teacher(s)** - Ask your questions, clarify the homework, attend the parent-teacher conference, inform teachers of changes at home that might impact your child's day. Teachers are better able to meet your child's needs if they are able to openly and honestly communicate with you.
- **Communicate with your child**—remember to include your child in conversations about their school day, their homework, or their friendships. They may have important insight to share with you! Let their voice be heard.
- **Respect the school's decisions about protocols**—as unnecessary as some rules may seem, it's important to understand they exist for a reason. If you aren't sure why we do something a certain way, ask! All protocols are a work in progress to meet the safety needs of you, your child, and all school staff. Safety first!
- **Keep an open mind to new ways of teaching or handling behaviors**—education is not static, it's ever-changing. Thus, your child's teacher or support staff may be trying a new technique to help students succeed. Please don't speak unkindly of any adults or students at school with or in front of your child. If you don't respect school or the people there, your child won't either.
- **Let your child fail**—children need to experience failure in order to succeed. Letting your child feel sad, frustrated, or nervous sometimes is so important; they will learn that they can overcome such feelings and that

**“It’s okay to  
let the kids  
fail... in fact,  
it’s one of the  
best gifts you  
can give  
them.”**

### How can your School Counselor help?

I help meet the needs of students by proactively teaching safe, respectful, and responsible behaviors in classrooms, small groups, and individually. I strive for a comprehensive school counseling program, which means that ALL students have access to their School Counselor throughout the year.

Also, if families need help with resources, Please do not hesitate to contact me. [Michele Morehouse](#)  
727-469-5983 x2006

“Experience is simply the name we give our mistakes.” - Oscar Wilde



## Paw Mart, PBS Celebrations, Tiger Assemblies, Tiger Roars, and Tiger Bucks Oh My!!

Did you know that your child can earn Tiger Bucks for being responsible, respectful, trustworthy, and doing their best? Tiger Bucks can be used at Paw Mart and to attend monthly PBS Celebrations.

**Paw Mart** is where students can use their Tiger Bucks to buy school supplies and other goodies each morning. Students come to Paw Mart each day by grade level from 8:00-8:25.

The schedule is:

Kindergarten on Monday

1<sup>st</sup> Grade on Wednesday

2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade on Thursday

4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade on Friday



A **Tiger Roar** is given to a student in each class every week as a way to recognize students giving their Belleair Best.

**PBS Celebrations** are held each month and students can buy a ticket to attend for 10 Tiger Bucks. Our first celebration of Freeze Pops and free time will be held at the end of September. We have exciting plans for future PBS Parties.

**Tiger Assemblies** are held each month and students are selected by their teachers for displaying the Character Trait of the month. This month's trait is Respect. And the Tiger Assembly is this Friday, September 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Promise Time News



Hooray!! It's time to begin Promise Time. It will begin on August 29, 2017. Promise Time provides structured, safe and enriching academic programs for students during extended learning time to promote acceleration, achievement, and academic performance for students at Belleair Elementary. Online instruction and small group face to face tutoring is facilitated by certified PCS teachers as well as enrichment activities. Promise Time will be offered to students who have scored a level 1 or 2 on the FSA or are in the YMCA After School program. It will be held after the school day from 3:30pm to 5:00pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. We look forward to this opportunity to assist our students in reaching their full potential and soaring to success. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the Site Facilitators, Andrea Wilkins



## Veterans Day Celebration

On Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. Belleair Elementary students will present our Veteran's Day program. All grade levels will perform as well as our Belleair Elementary Chorus. Everyone is welcome to attend and we would especially like to invite our Belleair friends and family that are Veterans! Please mark this date on your calendar.



# 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 Mother's Day \* Carnations \* School Spirit Wear\* Staff Appreciation \* End of Year Events \* and much more!

**We need you... Our students need you... Get involved today!!**

We need you to make it happen, if everyone helped out with a small job, we can make a better place for our students. PTA Meetings are held in the Media Center throughout the year, attendance is encouraged but not required.

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-shirt \$10.00**

Available sizes: Childrens..X-Sm (2-4) Sm (6-8) Med (10-12)  
Lg (14-16) Adult..Sm-XLg

Student's Name:

Shirt Size

Teacher:

\_\_\_\_\_

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# Parent Survey

Your input is valuable and we want to know how to best meet your needs in supporting your child? Please put an X next to the event(s) that you would like to participate in at Belleair Elementary.

What type of Family Engagement opportunities would you be interested in attending/participating?

Home visits

Reading Strategies to help your child at home

Math Strategies to help your child at home

Science Activities/ Science Showcase

Music and/or Art Shows involving your child

Student led conferences and/or evening conference night

Talent show

Multicultural events (Hispanic Heritage, Black History, Women's History, etc...)

Technology Training (how to use the programs at home that your child uses in school)

