

# THE PAW PRINT

Mrs. Stacie Everson, Principal

January 10, 2022 [www.cfisd.net](http://www.cfisd.net)



Happy New Year Birkes Families!

We are looking forward to a wonderful second half of the 2021-22 school year. We are so excited to kick off 2022 by welcoming our 1065+ students back to campus. We appreciate everyone's cooperation in continuing to adhere to our health and safety protocols to maximize the safest learning environment for our students and staff. CFISD would like to remind you of our health and safety protocols that were developed in collaboration with local medical experts and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

## COVID-19 Testing

CFISD resumed **free rapid COVID-19 testing** for CFISD staff and students at the SRC location on Sunday, Jan. 2, and the Berry Center and Pidgeon drive-thru locations on Monday, Jan. 3. **Registration is required for staff and students.** For hours of operation and to register for testing, please see <http://www.cfisd.net/c19testing>.

## Masks

Because face mask mandates are not legally permissible in Texas, face masks continue to be optional for all students and staff. Due to the high transmission rate of the Omicron variant, **masks are strongly encouraged while indoors on our campuses.**

## Isolation

On Monday, Dec. 27, the CDC released new guidance for people with COVID-19 that **shortens the recommended time for isolation from 10 days to 5 days if fever (100.0° F or above) has been absent for at least 24 hours without using fever-reducing medication.** Therefore, CFISD will be modifying the "Isolation and Readmission Criteria Protocol" in the LEAD Safely plan accordingly.

## Self-monitoring for Symptoms

Students and staff **must monitor daily** for symptoms of COVID-19 and **stay home when sick.** If COVID-19 symptoms are experienced, individuals must not report to work or school, and test for COVID-19 or consult with a licensed healthcare provider.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- Cough
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Loss of taste/smell
- Nasal congestion
- Headache
- Fever at or above 100°F
- Vomiting/diarrhea

## Hand Hygiene

Students and staff will be frequently reminded to wash hands thoroughly and often, cover coughs and sneezes, and use hand sanitizer throughout the day. All classrooms are equipped with hand sanitizer dispensers, in addition to building and cafeteria entrances and buses.

We appreciate your patience as we continue to navigate this pandemic together.

### LUNCH INFORMATION

As we are kicking off the second half of the 2021-22 school year, please remember we do not allow lunch drop offs. All students will be able to eat breakfast and lunch at no charge during the 2021-2022 school year.

We love having visitors for lunch, however, to best serve our students, please limit your visits to a maximum of one visit per week due to allowing your child time to socialize and build relationships with their peers. In addition, lunch may be brought for your child only. You cannot provide lunch for other students.

As always, we appreciate you and your support.

### THANK YOU!

Birkes appreciates our volunteers! We would like to extend a warm "Thank You" to our PTO. A special thanks to all of you who donated items for our holiday parties in December. Also, a huge thank you to our moms who put all the bags together for our students. We are thankful for everyone who made our holiday parties a success. We appreciate you!!

In addition, we would like to thank the PTO for the fantastic staff luncheon in December. Our staff works so hard and the love shown by our generous volunteers is always appreciated.

### BIRKES' WEBSITE

Please remember to visit our school website by going to:

<http://www.cfishd.net/Birkes>

Our newsletters are posted on our website under "Newsletter."

**We are proud of  
our Bulldogs!**

### CHARACTER TRAIT

Our Character Trait for January is "Self-Control." Choosing to do what you should do even when you don't want to.

### LABEL PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Please label your child's mask, water bottles, jackets, sweaters, lunch kits, and backpacks with first and last name.

### STAYING HEALTHY

We want to remind students and staff to continue to take these important precautions:

- ◆ Wash your hands frequently
- ◆ Wear facemasks
- ◆ Social distance
- ◆ Stay home if ill

Parents, please notify the school nurse if your student has been exposed to someone with covid and/or if anyone is ill in your household.

<http://www.cfishd.net/Birkes>

### COUNSELOR'S CORNER

#### **Giving rewards and praise**

Children want to do well & make you happy. When we "catch them being good" and tell them, it increases good behavior. Practice looking for good things and rewarding them in one of the following ways:

- Verbal rewards - tell your child exactly what they did that you liked & praise them.
- Physical rewards - give them a pat on the back, hugs, high fives.
- Activity rewards - do something with your children they like to do, like play a game.
- Material rewards - special treat or toy helps when you start teaching a new behavior.



## 2021 Kids Heart Challenge Participants

Johnathan Garza	Easton Bay	Cole Jickling	Preston Aguilar
Emily Caraveo	Ellie Sharrett	Abby Sharrett	NoFer Abdelmalak
Caleb Fliehler	Kendall Fliehler	Harrison Austin	Camila Cardenas
Samuel Thielen	Merolla Hanna	Brody Puskas	Nevaeh Arrants
Jose Ramos	Aden Montoya	Abigail Simonds	Wyatt-Gray McCormick
John Walden	Catherine Walden	Griffin Dealejandro	Alexander Martinez
Jennifer Davis	Sakina Shaikh	Yazan Alyaseen	Evan Lane
Amelia Clapham	Emery Graham	Bruno Alvarez	Dylan Dehoyos
Camue Sapolucia	Mia Garza	Quinn Thomas	Emily Aranda
Cole Michael	Riley Sessa	Hunter Jones	Liam Gallagher
Holden Walker	Jonathan Garcia	Colin Walker	Aiden Webb
Nathan McCall	Riley Kennedy	Bruno Alvarez	Zander Hess
Landon Lacy	Garrett Boutwell	Saren Case	Rox Kriegesmann
Phoenix Knight	Camila Davila	Carter Lopez	Mikaela Martinez
David Lopez	Isaiah Yanes	Aleksander Graves	Jaliyah George
Reid Toval	Juliette Coleman	Sofia Elias	Nathan La
Vivian La	Noah Yanes	Heaven Beyameen	Elisa Gilgour
Everett Gilgour	Talia Kasule	Daniel Appleton	Sofa Silva
Lucas Cardona	Jacob Cardona	Eduardo Cruz	Charlie Van Patter
Siima Bukenya	Carly Vaughn	Brooklyn Spurlock	Joseph Lewis
Krista Okerayi	Valanka Dcosta	Creed Hill	Corbin Bobbitt
Carter Lopez	Noah Cooper	Amri Durant	Joshua Knotts
John Archila	Juliana Rodriguez	Miles Ory	Tinker Bazan
Jaidon Harkins	Jace Curry	Mauricio Mezano	Mohamad Aljuboori
		<b>Total Raised:</b>	<b>\$ 5,465.26</b>

Top Fundraiser:  
Miles Ory, 1<sup>st</sup> grade, \$576.18

Thank you to all our families and friends for their generous donations to the Kids Heart Challenge/American Heart Association for the past 16 years. We are thrilled to have exceeded our goal of \$ 4,500.00. What an accomplishment!!



# Birkes Elementary



## January 2022



Did you know that CFISD is the 21<sup>st</sup> largest district in the USA?

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Birkes Elem. 8500 Queenston Blvd. Houston, TX 77095 Ph. #281-345-3300 Fax #281-345-3305</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p><u>Lunch Schedule</u> 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</p>				1
2	3 Professional Day for Staff	4 School Resumes	5	6 College Day wear your favorite college shirt or colors	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 End of 1 <sup>st</sup> semester 7:45 Student Council Mtg. 4 <sup>th</sup> gr. students to LCHS Theatre	14 Student Holiday/Teacher Workday	15
16	17 ML King's Day Student/Staff Holiday	18 Nature Trails 3 <sup>rd</sup> gr. – Boutwell, Domino, Garcia & 5 <sup>th</sup> gr. Formas, Hughes, Janak, Kopecky	19 Nature Trails 3 <sup>rd</sup> gr. Ashy, Beishir, Ellington, Lee & 5 <sup>th</sup> gr. Bartels, Berger, Hunter, & Niles	20	21 PTO Spirit Cart during lunches	22
23	24 Report Cards posted	25	26	27 Homeroom Picture Day	28 9:30 PTO Board Mtg.	29
30	31					

# BIRKES BARKER

Team Birkes  
Stronger Together!



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

PTO FACEBOOK: Birkes Elementary PTO/VIPs

**Please upload your photos.**

**We need: Family photos, your kids in their sports & extracurricular activities, 50th day of school, showing college pride, and Watch DOGS!**

We want the yearbook to feature everyone.

1. Visit <https://images.jostens.com/416265964> to access the ReplayIt site.
2. Click on "Choose Files" (you can select multiple photos by holding CTRL + clicking on each photo).
3. Complete the Contact Information with your information AND your kiddos' information for each photo. Good resolution is important!
4. Also important to add a "Description"! This helps us know who they are, which grade, and what event. If you have +1 kiddos, just enter the eldest and add your others in the "Description." For example, Laura Smith, 2nd grade, First day of school.

Please note, if you have a photo/media release restriction, your child's photos cannot be in the yearbook.

### **Order a yearbook (\$35)**

1. Visit: [www.jostensyearbooks.com](http://www.jostensyearbooks.com) or call 1-877-767-5217.
2. Click "Order now."
3. Enter "Birkes" and click "Search."
4. Click on "Birkes Elementary School."
5. Click on "Order my yearbook" or "Order yearbook package."
6. Fill in your child's information, then continue making selections and add to cart.
7. Checkout as a guest, log in, or create an account.

**Deadline to order a yearbook is March 1, 2022.**

### **Order 5<sup>th</sup> grade recognition ad**

1. Follow the same instructions to log in to or create an account at [www.jostensyearbooks.com](http://www.jostensyearbooks.com).
2. Select from the following ad options:
  - 1/2 page: \$50.00
  - 1/4 page: \$25.00
  - 1/8 page: \$15.00
3. Templates and instructions are provided for you to design your personalized recognition ad for your 5<sup>th</sup> grader.

**Deadline to order your 5<sup>th</sup> grader's recognition ad is February 1, 2022.**

**For questions, email [birkesyearbook2021@gmail.com](mailto:birkesyearbook2021@gmail.com)**

# *Happy New Year Bulldogs!*

THANK YOU to all our amazing families that donated items for the holiday parties! Your generosity made the parties a success. Thank you to every homeroom parent for helping hand out treats, for running a snowball relay and for making Barkley look great in a snow globe! You are appreciated!

The following teachers are still in need of a homeroom parent: Cortez, Fitzgerald, Ruiz, Niles. If you have a child in one of these rooms and are interested, please reach out to me. I'll be happy to answer any questions you may have!

Kimberly Caraveo, Birkes PTO - Homeroom Activities

[kimberly.caraveo@gmail.com](mailto:kimberly.caraveo@gmail.com)



# WE'RE HIRING & TRAINING BUS DRIVERS

**\$18.00 PER HOUR**

**STARTING PAY**

\*6.5 hours per day average

## **PAID TRAINING YEAR-ROUND**

- Work at one of CFISD's five transportation centers across the district
- Work in a positive environment with a culture filled with people who care and are committed to your success

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY,  
VISIT [WWW.CFISD.NET](http://WWW.CFISD.NET)**

