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The turnout was spectacular and we hope to see all of you at many events in the future!  If anyone could not make the meeting and would like to read a copy of the minutes please go to the “Meeting Minutes” page on the PTA website under the “Your PTA” menu heading or [click here](https://ballantynepta.weebly.com/meeting-minutes.html).     |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |   **What is a Character Bear?**  You may have seen it on the calendar, the website or your child might have mentioned it but have you ever wondered “What is a Character Bear?”  A “Character Bear” is selected in every classroom, every month, as a way to recognize those students who have demonstrated, through their everyday actions, positive character traits. These students exemplify what it means to be the ***BES-t*** at all times.  After all of the classrooms have selected their representative for the month an invitation is sent out to the family of the student for the character assembly. On assembly day, the students and their families gather in the gym at 8 am. Principal Rogers and Assistant Principal Smith will call each classroom representative up to the front and have the student say their name “loud and proud” for the audience to hear. They will read off why this student was chosen as their classroom representative and what traits they show that support good character and leadership skills. Each student will receive their certificate and a bracelet with the message “your principal believes in you”. Families and students are then treated to refreshments provided by our PTA and served by the 4th and 5th grade Character Ambassadors.  What a wonderful goal this is for all of our Bears to work towards and what valuable skills our teachers and staff are instilling in the students as we *grow leaders* here at BES.  Congratulations to the Character Bears for the month of September!    **Would You Like to Save a Tree Today?**  We know that there is a lot of paper that is used in our school every day but we feel that we can all do our part to save a tree or two now and again. That is why, this year, we are making a concerted effort to reduce the number of flyers that are coming home with your students. In their place there are several methods that you can use to get your information:   1. The Bear Blast - you have done it! If you are reading this you already have taken the first step to get your news and information without wasting resources – thank you! If you know anyone that does not receive our newsletter please direct them to [www.ballantynepta.com](http://www.ballantynepta.com) where they can sign up. 2. Social Media – our website, Facebook page and Twitter accounts are always current with the latest information. If you check them regularly you will get your news without having to sort through and recycle all of those flyers! Our Facebook and Twitter links are at the bottom of every Bear Blast. 3. peachjar flyers – this handy website is how the school is now distributing many of the community flyers that would usually come home in Tuesday folders. The website even keeps track of how many trees we are saving by making this simple change!   Please [click here](https://app.peachjar.com/flyers/all/schools/128397) to go to the peachjar website where you can see all of the current flyers or sign up to be notified each time a flyer is posted by the school. You can also access peachjar from the [BES school website](https://ballantyneelementaryschool.wearecms.com/) as well as the [Ballantyne PTA website](http://www.ballantynepta.com/).  **City BBQ Bears Night Out This Wednesday!**  Don’t worry about cooking tomorrow because we have a solution for you that saves you time and gives back to the BES PTA at the same time! All day long on Wednesday, September 18th you can dine in or carry out from City BBQ (in front of the Ballantyne Publix) and they will donate 25% of sales back to the school.  Make sure you show and have the cashier scan this barcode for your purchase to count!    **Calling All Room Parents!**  Have you volunteered to be a room parent or assistant room parent for your child’s class and received a message that you were selected for the job? If so, thank you for stepping up to fill these incredibly important roles in our school community!  Our room parent information meetings will be this week on Thursday afternoon at 4:30 pm and on Friday morning at 9:30 am. Make sure you respond to our room parent coordinator with which meeting you are planning to attend so we can be fully prepared with materials and the correct meeting space.  If you signed up at Back to School to be considered for the job but did not receive an email then we still have many volunteer opportunities and ways for you to participate in your child’s learning experience. [Click here](https://ballantynepta.weebly.com/volunteer.html) to learn more!  If you are a parent in the following classrooms then we are still in need of a room parent:   * Ms. Brito’s Kindergarten Class * Ms. Oram’s Kindergarten Class * Ms. Warman’s 2nd Grade Class   It is a very simple and rewarding job, please consider giving a little bit of your time to help your student and their class. Contact Anabel Bueno at [anabellbueno@gmail.com](mailto:anabellbueno@gmail.com) to volunteer today!  **It is Almost Book Fair Time!**    Do your kids love shopping for new books at the book fair? Do they love benefitting from the programs and end of year books that we provide to each student as a result of the funds earned from the fairs?  In order for us to successfully operate our book fairs we need help from volunteers like you. Please look at the sign-up on the [All PTA Sign-Up](https://ballantynepta.weebly.com/all-pta-sign-ups.html) page of the website or click the button below and consider donating your time for our fall fair with setup beginning on October 2nd!    **Register for Clubs!**  Fall clubs are kicking off and filling up fast! Make sure you visit the “Clubs” page on [www.ballantynepta.com](http://www.ballantynepta.com) to find out more information and to register before spaces are gone!    **Fun Opportunity for 4th and 5th Graders**  **See the source image**Tomorrow at 9:00 am, author Scott Reintgen will visit our school and host an assembly for our 4th and 5th graders.  He will show and talk about his novel Saving Fable.  4th and 5th grade students that pre-ordered the book will get their copy signed by the author.  For additional questions please contact our Media Specialist, Ms. Cooper at  [anne.cooper@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:anne.cooper@cms.k12.nc.us)  **Order Your Spirit Wear Today!**  Remember to head over to our new online store to purchase your BES gear early so your Bears can show off their pride for next month’s spirit day on October 11th!    **Time to Relink!**  Did you know that every year you have to relink your store cards to Ballantyne Elementary for the school to continue to receive benefits? Head over to our Fundraising page and scroll to the bottom to get links to Publix, Harris Teeter and Amazon Smile.    **Sign up to Paint the Birthday Rock!**  Do you want to celebrate your BES Bear by painting a special birthday message on the rock closest to the school? If so, then for only a $5 donation you can sign-up to paint the birthday rock!  On the Birthday Rock page of [BallantynePTA.com](http://www.ballantynepta.com/) you can see all of the Frequently Asked Questions about painting and payment as well as find the link to sign-up! |  |  | | --- | |  |   **Bookmark the PTA Website!**  Save [BallantynePTA.com](http://www.ballantynepta.com/) on your home screen today and you will thank us tomorrow!  Enjoy easy access to important links, keep up with the school calendar, explore volunteer opportunities and so much more, with ease, from the palm of your hand!      **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**  If you are looking for information on transportation, visitation or dismissal please see the ***Important Reminders*** section on the [Bear Necessities](https://ballantynepta.weebly.com/bear-necessities.html) page of the PTA Website. |   **Stay Connected** |   Ballantyne Elementary PTA | 15425 Scholastic Drive, Charlotte NC 28277  Summer Rogers, Proud Principal | 980-343-0413  Bell Schedule 8:45 am – 3:45 pm  [www.ballantynepta.com](http://www.ballantynepta.com)  [ballantynelementaryschool.wearecms.com](https://d.docs.live.net/8a51a7da3a09ee20/ballantynelementaryschool.wearecms.com)  Brought to you by Ballantyne PTA Communications – for questions please email [ballantyneptacommunications@gmail.com](mailto:ballantyneptacommunications@gmail.com?subject=Bear%20Blast%20Question!)  You are receiving this email because you subscribed to the ListServ. Would you like to unsubscribe from this list?  [Click Here](http://cmslistserv.cms.k12.nc.us/cgi-bin/wa.exe?SUBED1=dl437parentsall&A=1) |
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