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Here is a reminder of the shopping schedule:  *Thursday October 3rd: 9:00 – 3:00 pm – Previews for Kindergarten & 1st Grade Only – No Sales*  *Friday October 4th: 8:15 – 2:00 pm – Sales Open*  *Monday October 7th: 8:15 – 2:00 pm – Sales Open*  *Tuesday October 8th: 8:15 – 2:00 pm – Sales Open*  *Wednesday October 9th – TEACHER WORKDAY - NO SCHOOL, FAIR IS CLOSED*  *Thursday October 10th: 8:15 – 2:00 & 5:30 - 8:00 pm – Sales Open for School & Curriculum Night*  *Friday October 11th: 8:15 – 2:00 pm – Sales Open, Fair Breakdown begins at 2:00 pm*  During the dates of the fair, media center specials classes will be held in the individual classrooms. Since student’s will not be coming down to the book fair during their media class time, the fair will be open to all students and families to shop every day before school and at appropriate times during the day with a pass from their teacher. Parents and family members are welcome to shop at any time during the day or join their Bears before the bell rings, during the student’s lunch period, or during Curriculum Night on October 10th. [See our website for more FAQ’s](https://ballantynepta.weebly.com/bear-necessities.html).  **Note:** We still are in need of a few volunteers in order for us to successfully operate our book fair. 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!    **The Annual Campaign Fundraiser is Here!**  Each fall, we kick off the school year with a fundraising drive to support the many programs that the PTA makes possible at Ballantyne Elementary throughout the year. From fun family events to classroom supplies, curriculum aids to STEM materials, athletic gear to performing arts assemblies, teacher training to leveled literacy books for all ages…many of the resources that our students and staff depend on are provided through the generous donations of our families. Without these donations we would be unable to support the school in ways that a public school can not always accomplish with limited government resources.  Please take the time to visit our capital campaign page on the website to learn more and make your donations at <www.pay4schoolstuff.com>!    In addition to the many benefits of supporting your neighborhood school, the classes with highest participation in the campaign will earn special prizes.  Individual classrooms or entire grades may also offer fun incentives for participating.  The school, as a whole, will earn the following incentives as the campaign total passes these benchmarks: ​  School-Wide Incentive Levels   * $30,000 - Dunk Tank - the school will participate in a dunk tank event with Principal Rogers in the hot seat! * $25,000 - Pie the Teachers - the custodians will get to pie the teachers in the face in front of their classes at lunch.  The PTA Board is on cleanup duty! * $20,000 - Principal Rogers Dyes Her Hair - the student body gets to vote on what color! * $15,000 - Special Mascot Guest to Come Visit the School * $12,500 - Decorate Principal Rogers’ Car - the PTA will decorate her car & she must drive around showing Charlotte that she is a Proud Principal of the BES-t students! * $10,000 - 30 Minutes of Extra Recess for all of the Students * $7,500 - Hat Day - all students can wear a hat of their choosing for the day   Remember, we are a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Charity and many of your employers will match your donations to the PTA. Please [click here](https://ballantynepta.weebly.com/corporate-matching.html) to learn how to “double your donation”! Once those matches are approved, make sure you send proof to [ballantynepta@gmail.com](mailto:ballantynepta@gmail.com) so they can count for your student towards incentives.  **Ballantyne Bears Night Out at Bamboo 7 Asian Cuisine!**    Our BBNO team has added a new restaurant to our lineup this year – Bamboo 7 Asian Cuisine (in the shopping plaza at the corner of Lancaster Highway and Providence Rd. West) will be giving back to the school for every dine-in or carry-out order (delivery not included) from 4-8pm this Wednesday night! You must show a school communication with their logo - this Bear Blast, the Facebook post or our [BBNO page](https://ballantynepta.weebly.com/bbno.html) on the PTA website- for your sale to count.  Take a break from cooking and support our community partners who support the school!  **Celebrate our Custodians!**  Also, on Wednesday October 2nd, we will be celebrating Custodian Appreciation Day! It would be wonderful if your Bear could send in a thank you note for our amazing custodial team – Mr. English, Ms. Frias and Ms. Wilson. They are really the unsung heroes of the school, quietly working behind the scenes doing jobs that no one else would want to do in an effort to make our days better. Let’s show them how much we notice and appreciate their work!  Make sure that anything you send in is addressed to the custodians so we can get them the thanks they deserve!  In addition to all of the amazing notes that our Bears will send in, Tijuana Flats, has donated gift cards for each of them. Please remember to support our [community partners](https://ballantynepta.weebly.com/community-partners.html) when you make a choice for where to shop and dine!    **International Walk or Bike to School Day is this week on Wednesday!**  One more item for Wednesday is National Walk or Bike to School Day! Families are invited to gather at the entrance to the Legacy Apartments. Arrive by 8:10am at the corner of Landing Place Lane and Lancaster Hwy to participate and we will cross together (with police support for safety!)  Blaze, the fire department mascot, will greet the kids at school and we will have fun treats thanking them for trying walk to school day.    For families wishing to participate but your home is too far to walk or bike to the meeting place, the suggested places to park are Elevation Church and the Providence Point Clubhouse.  Walking from those sites at 8:00am should get you to the apartments to be walked across the street with the group at 8:10.    We look forward to Walk to School Day and thank our community partners for their support.  **Free Girls Basketball Clinic at Ardrey Kell!**  See the source image  Ardrey Kell High School and their Health/PE teacher and women's basketball coach, Jeff Buseick, are having a free basketball clinic for K-8 girls on October 12th.  [Click here](https://ballantynepta.weebly.com/community-news.html) to see the flyer that outlines all of the information, including a link for sign-ups!  **Digital Flyers on peachjar!**  This handy website is how the school is now distributing many of the community flyers that would usually come home in Tuesday folders.  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/).  **Register for Clubs!**  Fall clubs have started and registration is now open for all offerings! Make sure you visit the “Clubs” page on [www.ballantynepta.com](http://www.ballantynepta.com) to find out more information and to register before it is too late!    **Order Your Spirit Wear Today!**  Remember to head over to our new online store to purchase your BES gear!    **Time to Relink!**  Relink your store loyalty cards by clicking the button below.    **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! |  |  | | --- | |  |     **FROM AROUND THE BEAR CAVE**  Here are a few of the fun things that happened to our Bears this past week!  We had a fabulous first Principal’s Coffee last Friday where Mrs. Rogers and Mrs. Smith talked about the state of the school and changes that are occurring. There was good conversation among the parents and the staff and input was provided for future Principal chat topics. Mrs. Dillon kept us all up to date on the wonderful improvements to the reading curriculum for K-3 and even provided all of the attendees with a curriculum guide for each grade. Our next Principal’s Coffee is on November 22nd – mark your calendars and we hope to see you all there!      Continuing our push for accelerating the learning of our students *AND* staff, the 4th grade team visited the Ron Clark Academy last Friday. These leaders can now take what they learned and bring it back to the teachers at Ballantyne to positively impact the way that every student is taught. This professional development opportunity was sponsored by the PTA and YOUR donations – thank you!      **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. 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