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Watch the Bear Blast and Facebook!* | | **October 31st** | **-Dress Like Your Favorite Book Character –** *see below*  **-Fall Treats in the Cafeteria –** *see below* |      |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |   **The Race is On!**  Our Fall Capital Campaign Fundraiser kicked off last week at the “*Ballantyne Motor Speedway.*” As part of the fun, each of our classes will decorate a race car that is placed on our track in the Tower Lobby (see below).  The classes with the highest percentage of students with a donation in their name at the end of the campaign will win a special prize from the PTA. In addition to this “pole position” prize, individual classes and grade-levels are running competitions…so get those donations in today!    Currently, our Pole Position winning class is: **Ms. Compton’s 5th Grade Class** with a 34% participation rate! Thank you!    For even more fun, we are also tracking total school donations and we will be giving back fun incentives as we pass each of the milestones! Our Ballantyne Motor Speedway graphic below will always keep you up to date on what incentives we have earned, which are coming next, and how much further we have to get to that finish line by November 1st!  Look for it here each week and on the Bear Necessities page of the PTA website by [clicking here](https://ballantynepta.weebly.com/bear-necessities.html#campaign)!  Our total campaign donations are currently: **$9,180!**    Please take the time to visit our capital campaign page on the website to learn more and make your donations at <www.pay4schoolstuff.com>!  ​  **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.      **Mark Your Calendars for BBNO at Jersey Mike’s!**    On Thursday, October 17th from 4-8pm we will have Ballantyne Bears Night Out at Jersey Mike’s at Stonecrest. You will want to mark this one down because, if you come in between 5 and 5:45 pm our very own Principal Rogers will be behind the counter making your sandwich for you! If you come in starting at 6 pm you will get to have your sandwich made by Mr. Butler from the 5th Grade Academy! We hope to see you all there!    **It is Time for the First Teacher Treats of the Year!**  On Thursday, October 24th our Hospitality Committee will be hosting the first “Teacher Treats” of the year and they need your help to make it a success!  What is “Teacher Treats”? Teacher Treats is a monthly themed event of refreshments and snacks provided by our generous families to show extra love to our teachers and staff during their lunch time and throughout the day. Each grade is assigned one month for their families to supply the treats but the entire staff gets to enjoy the event each month. We encourage you to sign-up to bring items during the event that corresponds to the grade(s) of your student(s) but feel free to sign up for any event that fits your schedule or fancy!  [Click here](https://ballantynepta.weebly.com/all-pta-sign-ups.html) to go to the All PTA Sign-Ups website page where you can see a list of each event, what grades are assigned to which month and the links to sign up! Our first theme is the [“Spooky Spud Bar”](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b48a8a828a3fd0-potato) where we hope to have a lot of treats and no tricks to shower our staff!  **Be “Part of Our World” and Sign Your Rising Star Up for This Year’s Drama Club Production of…**    The Ballantyne Elementary Drama Club is a collaboration with the Morrison YMCA Ballantyne Arts Center. The rehearsal process utilizes an educational approach, providing theatrical training and direct application in a fun yet challenging environment. Professional directors, stage managers, and theatrical design teams support these quality productions featuring the young performers from Ballantyne Elementary School.  Drama Club begins Tuesday, November 7th and spaces fill up quickly – do not let your student miss out! Click below to go the PTA Website Drama Club page and sign up today!    **It is Time for the National PTA Reflections Art Contest!**    Does your child enjoy art, music and dance or have an interest in writing, producing films and taking photos? Then let them have fun unleashing their inner artist with PTA Reflections!  This year’s theme, “Look Within,” calls for your own unique interpretation through the arts. Students can submit any non-digital entries to their homeroom teacher, any digital entries must be submitted to [ballantynereflections@gmail.com](mailto:ballantynereflections@gmail.com).   ​All entries must include an entry form and be returned by **October 25th**.  To find our more and download entry forms, visit the Bear Necessities page on the PTA Website.    **No Tricks, Just Treats on October 31st!**  Before donning any costumes at night, our students are welcome to show us how much they love to read by dressing up as their favorite book characters! Make sure that all costumes are school appropriate and that your student brings the book in with them for any fun activities that their teacher might have planned!  To continue our day of fun, our students will celebrate the season with a special “Fall Treat” celebration in the cafeteria during their lunches. Please look for an email from your class room parents going over additional details and to see if there is a need for donations of treats, drinks or paper products!  **Help our Kindergarteners Give Back with Socktober!** http://s3.amazonaws.com/site.soulpancake/socktober/sock.png  Every night in the United States an estimated 600,000 people live on the streets. This October, SoulPancake and Kid President want 2 million people to prove that even the smallest acts of love, like donating a pair of socks, can make a big difference in the lives of our neighbors who are homeless.  **Please help the BES Kindergarten Students take action against this problem!**  Beginning Tuesday, October 16th through Thursday, October 31th, please donate a pair of new socks and place them in your classroom collection basket. If each student at BES donates just one pair of socks, we would collect over 900 pairs of socks! What a difference that would make in the lives of others!  Collection totals per grade-level will be announced each Monday on the morning news. The class in each grade-level that has collected the most socks for the week, will receive a giant sock award to post outside their classroom door. All socks will be donated to a local homeless shelter.  For more information regarding this national project, please go to <http://soulpancake.com/socktober/>  If you have any questions, please contact Lisa O’Herron at [l.oherron@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:l.oherron@cms.k12.nc.us?subject=Socktober)  **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/).  **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!  Our Fall Book Fair was a HUGE success! Thank you to everyone who came to shop. The Scholastic Dollars that we will earn from this fair will go a long way towards buying needed books and materials for the entire school!    A special thanks to our new Book Fair co-chairwomen JoAnn (below middle) and Julie (below far right). Another special shout out to our PTA Board Secretary and former Book Fair co-chair, Andi (below left), who stepped in to help these amazing ladies run their very first fair!    Also, a big thank you to all of the 5th Grade Character Mentors who helped us man the doors and help the littlest Bears count their money and find their books!    Also, this week we had a fabulous turnout for Curriculum Night! So many families came to hear their teachers talk about what our students are learning and how we can help them. There was mingling, there was a lot of books being bought at the book fair, there was a lot of learning and there was even the wonderful Ms. Hazen getting up on desks and using her new Ron Clark Academy skills to talk about how our teachers inspire our students every day! You can see more of these pictures on the Ballantyne Elementary School Facebook feed by [clicking here](https://www.facebook.com/BEARTEAM2019/).    If you loved what you heard from your teachers and you want to help support what they do every day and help support sending them to more professional development workshops like Ron Clark then do not forget to donate to the Capital Campaign by going to <www.pay4schoolstuff.com>. The money earned from this fundraiser not only sends our teachers to training but it buys them needed classroom supplies, books, technology and curriculum. Let’s make it all the way to the top and get our classes to the finish line!      **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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