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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. Haston’s 2nd Grade Class** with a 57% 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: **$14,532!**    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.      **It is Time for the First Teacher Treats of the Year!**  This 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 – we thank you in advance for your support!  **Mark Your Calendars for a Special Bears “Day” Out at High Seas Mini Golf!**    Monday, October 28th is a teacher workday and there is no school…how are you going to keep those restless Bears entertained all day? Have no fear, we have the perfect solution…our first ever Ballantyne Bears *DAY* out!  This miniature golf course in nearby Indian Land (10001 Charlotte Hwy, Indian Land, SC 29707) is owned by a BES Bear family and they have generously offered to host this event to help give back to the school as well as give kids a fun community event to connect with friends on their day off.  Come play miniature golf anytime from 2 to 9 pm and a portion of the sales will come right back to the school. There will even be a food truck selling hamburgers, hot dogs, and other snacks and drinks from 5-7 pm to help you solve your day-off dinner woes (these sales also count for our Bears Day Out)!  Make sure you mention that you are with Ballantyne and your fun family day will give back to one of our own Bear business owners as well as the school – it is a win-win and we hope to see you all out on the course!    **Be “Part of Our World” & 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!    **Only a Few More Days to Enter 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.    **International Art Appreciation Day – Celebrate our Amazing Art Teachers!**  This Friday, October 25th, is International Art Appreciation Day. We are using this day to not only appreciate art, but the teachers who instill a love and appreciation for art into our students every day. Ms. Zelinski and Mr. Howard make every one of our days brighter with the amazing art projects that decorate the halls and our home refrigerators so let’s make their day brighter in return!  Have your student write a thank you card, bring a small token of appreciation, or draw a picture to bring in for Ms. Zelinksi or Mr. Howard (or both!) and send it in to school by this Friday. Bonus points if they use a technique that they learned in art class!  Make sure you label it with their names and the homeroom teachers will make sure they make their way to the right recipient. Thank you for helping us celebrate arts in education and our amazing art teachers!  **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!  http://s3.amazonaws.com/site.soulpancake/socktober/sock.png  **Help our Kindergarteners Give Back with Socktober!**  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)  **Join South CLT Presbyterian for a Fall Block Party!**  Our community partners at South CLT Presbyterian are inviting the entire school to come out and enjoy the cooler evenings of fall with a bounce house, games, friends, and food! The party will be held outside of BES from 5-7pm on Saturday, October 26th. It is free for all and a great chance to connect with friends and neighbors while celebrating the change of seasons. All are welcome!  **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!  Going along with our art theme this week, we wanted to send our congratulations to our three students whose work represented BES at the Festival in the Park CMS Student Art Show!    Their artwork was on display at Freedom Park in September (see art below).  They are:   * Isabel Aranda in Ms. Aldinger's 4th grade * Ella Windham in Ms. Moore's 5th grade * Aasrita Tolugu in Ms. Hudson's 4th grade       We really have great artists at Ballantyne Elementary – congratulations ladies!  We also wanted to send a special shout out to Principal Rogers, Ms. Street, and Mr. Butler who volunteered their time to come and make sandwiches with the Jersey Mike’s crew for our Bears Night Out last week. The kids loved coming in to see their dinner being made by their favorite BES staff and each sandwich sold gave back to the school! 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. Would you like to unsubscribe from this list?  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