

Welcome Track 4 Students and Families!

Want to catch up on HES happenings while you were out? Read back issues of the Herald found in your teacher's Monday folder or online at our new PTA website (www.heritagepta.org).

THE HERITAGE HERALD

A Weekly Bulletin Courtesy of the HES PTA

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Farewell To Dr. Bryant

Her Concern For Every Child's Education And Well-Being Will Be Admired Long After Her Retirement

Dr. Scarlett Bryant retires on Thursday, July 31st after four dedicated years of leadership at Heritage Elementary School. She always led in the most professional manner and with great thoughtfulness and enthusiasm for every student's accomplishments. A fine southern lady, Dr. Bryant's concern for the education and well-being of each student at Heritage Elementary will be greatly missed.

She retires knowing Heritage is staffed with outstanding teachers and staff who will continue to perform at the highest levels. She also leaves on a high note knowing Heritage Elementary School is the only area elementary school to meet "No Child Left Behind" federal standards (see related article).

Teachers and parents are quick to remember her selfless approach to leadership and education. Mrs. Kirkland, a second grade teacher, notes "children will truly miss Dr. Bryant's love and support, especially for those who needed it the most." Upon Dr. Bryant's arrival at Heritage, the school population faced tremendous change as it went from an application-only school to one that accommodated a large base population with a higher than average percentage of free and reduced lunch students. Recognizing that many students faced challenges learning at home with parents working multiple jobs to make ends meet, she showed particular concern for their obstacles.

Tammy Bunn, a 5th grade teacher, recalls, "Dr. Bryant showed concern for charities in the community and would ask that gifts be given to them at holidays in her honor rather than giving her a gift." Teachers and staff collected over \$500 to donate in her name to

Backpack Buddies, a charity sponsored by the Rolesville Baptist Church to provide nutritious food for children who need a little help over the weekends. The PTA donated \$100 to the same charity and will invite her back in October for a shade tree planting dedication ceremony on the playground.

Dr. Bryant's years of teaching experience benefited HES teaching staff. Fifth grade teacher Mrs. Overby remarked, "Dr. Bryant really puts the kids first. She has been a great advocate for the children in her time here, and sets an example to staff of how you can make a difference in a child's life. Dr. Bryant is receptive to teachers' ideas, and wants us to have a say in what we teach."

Dr. Bryant was rarely too busy to reach out to a child. Maggie Revelo-Bryant, the school receptionist, remembers Dr. Bryant busily preparing an important report for a meeting when a second grader dropped in and wanted to read to her. Dr. Bryant stopped right in her tracks to make time for the student who proudly read the text. Her words of encouragement and pleasure elicited a smile that was unforgettable.

It is that caring, commitment and professionalism that will long be remembered at Heritage Elementary School. And, as she looks forward to time with her grandchildren, she should leave knowing how grateful the students and staff are to have been at HES under her leadership.

Best wishes to Dr. Bryant. She will be missed and fondly remembered in the minds of all she touched during her time at HES.

School Fall Fundraiser Underway This Week

Families of students on Tracks 1 and 2 should be on the lookout for the Fall Fundraiser packet coming home this Monday. Track 3 and 4 families will receive packets in August.

As in years past, the Fall Fundraiser is a product sales based effort. The catalogs include magazines, nuts, jewelry, gift-wrap, and novelty items. Proceeds fund PTA events, programs, grants, and facility improvements during the school year. The more successful our Fall Fundraiser, the less likely the PTA is to have multiple other fundraisers throughout the year. A discussion regarding project-spending plans of PTA funds will take place at the August 21st PTA meeting. At that time we will prioritize projects and set fundraising goals for the year.

Not a fan of product sales as school fundraiser or would you like the PTA try something different next fall? Later this year we'll be forming a committee to study various fundraising options. Contact Sandra Carpenter at scarp32@yahoo.com.

Hooray For Our Students and Staff!

HES One of Few To Meet "No Child Left Behind" Federal Test Standards

Heritage Elementary School is one of only 31 elementary schools in Wake County to meet federal "No Child Left Behind" standards for schools. There are 96 elementary schools in Wake County. The preliminary results for Adequate Yearly Progress include only three of the four sets of targets that schools must meet under AYP: mathematics participation, mathematics proficiency, and reading participation. The reading proficiency target results will be added later this fall for schools.

The results are a testament to the talents of our teaching staff, students and Dr. Bryant's leadership. Congratulations Hurricanes!

New Mascot, Hes, Revealed This Week!

Hes. He's always on the right track! Students will meet our new Hurricanes character mascot one piece at a time this week concluding with Friday's full reveal. Families can participate at home too by visiting www.heritagepta.org daily.

Students will be encouraged to be like Hes. Hes has friends on every track, not just his own. Hes models the character traits such as self-discipline and respect found on the banners in the school's central hallway. Hes makes healthy food choices at every meal. Hes gets plenty of exercise every day. And, Hes studies hard and tries his very best in class.

New spirit wear with the image of Hes will be available for pre-sale in the coming weeks. Make Hes a part of your after-school and dinnertime conversations. Be part of the fun!

Morning Carpool Safety Urged by School Staff

Morning carpool drivers are urged to be patient at drop-off particularly in the first few weeks of the school year. In addition to our kindergartners, many families are new to the school and are just learning how it works. Please wake up a few minutes earlier if you're worried about the long lines. If you arrive closer to 7:15 a.m. the line is much shorter than when you arrive at 7:25 a.m. You'll find as the year progresses that the line moves much faster and sometimes there is no wait at all.

Lastly, do not race around the line to find a parking spot. There is not enough room for two lanes of traffic and last week one impatient driver sideswiped another vehicle. Please plan ahead and be patient as we get our students to school safely and smoothly.

Drop Your Drawers!

We are still seeking new underwear for our students! Clothing donations (underwear, socks, shirts, pants, shorts, and shoes) were a bit sparse last week so let's go for it again. The Clothes Closet donation bin is located just inside the main entrance of the school. Please be an integral part of keeping our students fresh, clean and happy during their school day. For more details, see last week's issue of the Heritage Herald found at www.heritagepta.org.

July PTA Meeting Minutes On Website

If you were unable to attend the PTA meeting held on July 17, families are asked to review the minutes at www.heritagepta.org or on the PTA Bulletin Board outside the Media Center in the school's central hallway. Consider being active in your school's PTA – please join the PTA and participate in monthly meetings. We value your opinion and want your input.

Attention Volunteers: Mandatory Training Sessions Announced

After completing the Wake County Online Volunteer Registration in the Media Center, the Heritage Elementary School office staff is requesting that all volunteers attend a mandatory training before volunteering begins. The sessions will last approximately 45 minutes and attendance is required at only one session. At the conclusion of the session, you will receive a form to turn in to your child's teacher.

Below are some of the upcoming training dates and times:

- July 31st at 10 a.m. (location: Media Center)
- August 7th at 7:00 p.m. (location: Media Center)
- August 13th at 10:00 a.m. (location: Media Center)
- August 21st at 7:00 p.m. (location: Media Center)
- August 27th at 10:00 a.m. (location: Media Center)

All questions should be directed to Maggie Revelo-Bryant at mrevelo-byrant@wcpss.net.

Students: Claim Items From HES Lost and Found

When little Suzy makes it home without her favorite sweater, odds are she won't need to look much further than the HES Lost and Found Cabinet. Located across from the Café in the central hallway (on the way to the playground), Suzy can check the cabinet to claim her missing sweater. It's especially easy if her name is on the items she brings to school, especially coats, jackets, sweaters, and lunch boxes.

Any unclaimed and unlabeled items will be donated on the last Monday of each month to the HES Clothes Closet or local charity.

Wanted: Unused Books and Magazines

All HES families are asked to take a look around their homes for *child appropriate* reading materials to donate to the school. Too often students cannot find suitable books or magazines to read in the evening or on weekends or they need exposure to a greater variety of materials.

Please bring donations into the school for placement on the Reading Table located just outside the Café. Our students and faculty thank you!