



DECEMBER 2021, VOLUME 21, ISSUE 12

BULLETIN

Yvonne T. McKitrick Elementary School

Message from the PTA President

Happy Holidays Bobcats!

This year has flown by! This is our last newsletter of 2021. I hope everyone had a great year!

I'd like to highlight some wonderful accomplishments by the PTA this first half of the school year. We hit a record high with our membership drive, donated a ton of school supplies to children in need, introduced Bike & School Safety Week to McKitrick where we had several families participate, hosted a super popular family fun event at Chicken Salad Chick, honored our bus drivers and custodians, had the most Reflections applicants to date and just wrapped up a successful fundraiser with Boosterthon where we raised over \$48,000 for our school toward new laptops for our teachers.

I am looking forward to the next half of the school year & am excited to see all that the PTA has in store!

Lindsay Jimison
PTA President 2021-2022
president@mckitrickpta.com

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

December 2021

6th - 10th - McKitrick Cares
Holiday Toy Drive

7th - 10th - Holiday Shop

10th - McKitrick Family Holiday Night
at Raprager Farms, Odessa

Dec. 20th - Jan. 3rd -
WINTER BREAK- No School

January 2022

3rd - Non Student Day

4th - Happy New Year! Back to School

17th - MLK Day - No School

24th - Start of Literacy Week

26th - PTA General Meeting

February 2022

7th - Internet Safety Day

11th - McKitrick Sweetheart Dance

18th - President's Day - No School

20th - Non Student Day

TBD - Kindergarten Round Up

McKitrick Elementary

5503 Lutz Lake Fern Road
Lutz, Florida 33558
813.558.5427

Principal/Administrator:
Allison Cline





A NOTE FROM OUR

Principal

Happy Holidays to our McKitrick Families!

I wanted to wish you all a safe and healthy and happy holiday season. I hope you take time to see friends and family and enjoy the wonder and magic this time of year brings. Looking forward to a New Year together! Stay safe!

Warm Regards,

Allison Cline
Principal

Happy Holidays

MCKITRICK  **ELEMENTARY**

The School Where "It" Happens!

Winter Wonderland Holiday Shop

December 7th-10th

This year the Holiday Shop will be set up in a new location. The stage will be transformed into a winter wonderland that will create a wonderful shopping experience for the McKittrick students to purchase holiday gifts for friends and family.

The merchandise ranges from \$.50 to a few items at \$19.00. The students will visit the shop as a class, with parent volunteers assisting the class in shopping and keeping to their budget.

Please confirm with your teacher which day your child's class will visit the holiday shop so your child doesn't miss their shopping day.

If you have any questions, please contact:
holidayshop@mckittrickpta.com



At Home or At School Show Your School Spirit!!



WHETHER A NEWCOMER OR RETURNING FAMILY CHECK OUT OUR NEW THEME BASED SHIRTS!

Mascot Universe is conveniently located at 19259 N Dale Mabry Hwy or shop online at Mascotuniverse.com and have your spirit wear shipped for a fee. Mascot donates 20% of all sales to McKittrick!

Please like on Facebook and watch out for social media updates!

Please contact Mascot at 813-933-2333 with any questions about your orders.





USE THIS QR CODE TO HEAD RIGHT TO THE MCKITTRICK SPIRIT WEAR!

DON'T FORGET, SHOW US UR SCHOOL PRIDE AND WEAR YOUR SPIRIT WEAR ON FRIDAYS!

MCKITTRICK ELEMENTARY WHERE "IT" HAPPENS!



CONGRATS TO MRS. MONAGHAN'S 1ST GRADE CLASS FOR WINNING OUR CLASS MEMBERSHIP CONTEST!

They enjoyed an ice cream sundae bar to celebrate, courtesy of the McKitrick PTA!



QUICK LINKS

[McKitrick PTA Website](#)

[McKitrick PTA Store](#)

[McKitrick PTA Facebook](#)

[McKitrick PTA Twitter](#)

[McKitrick Elementary Website](#)

[2021-2022 School Calendar](#)

[McKitrick Lunch Menus](#)

[Meal Pre-Pay](#)

amazonsmile

You shop. Amazon gives.

Shopping on Amazon this Holiday Season?

Sign up for an Amazon smile account and assign McKitrick Elementary School to receive 0.5% of all purchases!

JOIN THE MCKITRICK Parents Club

Have you joined the McKitrick Parents Club Facebook group? It's a great place to connect with other families, ask questions, and share information relevant to McKitrick Elementary.



SCAN the QR code here to join our online community today!



McKitrick Family Holiday Night

*Join us at RAPRAGER FAMILY FARMS to
celebrate the holiday season and visit with other
McKitrick families & teachers for fun activities!*

FRIDAY DECEMBER 10th from 3:30-6:00pm
RAPRAGER FAMILY FARM

16907 Boy Scout Road, Odessa

Tickets are \$12.50/person online and \$3 parking

Purchase at RapraegerFamilyFarms.com



Winter Festival Includes:

Farm Animals • Giant Bounce Pillow
Hay Chute Slide • Corn Pit • Gingerbread Village
Santa's Workshop • Photos with Santa
Hayrides & Lights After Dark



*****TOY DRIVE!*****



***Please bring a new unwrapped toy to help
children in need during this holiday season.
This will be our last day for the toy drive and
a donation box will be at the entrance to the
festival. Let's show how much McKitrick cares!***

'TIS THE SEASON

MCKITRICK HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE

DECEMBER 6-10, 2021

Bring a toy and spread some joy! Toys will benefit students at McKitrick and Alexander Elementary to make their holiday bright.

Place a new, unwrapped toy in marked boxes located across campus. There will also be a donation box outside the front office until 3:30 pm each day.

Thank you for your generosity!



If you have any questions, please contact:
mckitrickcares@mckitrickpta.com

The McKitrick Toy Drive is December 6th - 10th. You can send a new, unwrapped toy to school with your child. We will have donation boxes in every class hallway. There will also be a donation box outside the front office each day until 3:30pm. All donations will benefit McKitrick and Alexander Elementary students. Thank you for helping to make their holidays bright!

McKitrick Cares

So many amazing things have been going on this year and we want to show our gratitude for all of your support. **Coat Drive:** Thank you so much for your donations to the coat drive. All donations went to students in need at Bay Crest Elementary. Your generosity helps to keep kids warm during these colder months. **Thanksgiving:** We were able to give each family a frozen turkey for Thanksgiving from your donations. **Picture Day:** We would like to give a HUGE thank you to Gigante Productions for donating a picture day sheet to our families.

Thank You for Making a Difference!

THANK
YOU



NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

Have you ever planned to start the New Year with a new lifestyle resolution only to be disappointed later on down the line? If so, you are not alone. We are often bombarded with messages that criticize certain food groups and idealize diets that can be detrimental not only to our physical health, but overall mental and emotional wellbeing. Diet culture is pervasive across our society and despite the fact that most dieting strategies eventually fail, we continue to put pressure on ourselves to look or feel a certain way.

Terms like, 'intuitive eating' and 'health at every size' are useful ways to conceptualize an alternative way of thinking about dieting and body image. Intuitive eating is a non-diet approach to health that promotes an all-encompassing mind-body self-care eating framework. Health at every size, emphasizes size diversity and challenges weight discrimination, thus looking at health in a holistic way as opposed to a weight-centered approach.

Instead of focusing on weight, change the focus to the specific actions that you are taking to improve your health and well-being. Focus on the changes you see in your behaviors, habits, thoughts, and how you feel throughout the day. Over time you'll find that this shift will help you make peace with food and your body.

We wish all of our McKitrick Family a happy holiday season and a healthy new year ahead!

Additional Resources:

The Health at Every Size® (HAES®) Approach - ASDAH, 10 Principles of Intuitive Eating - Intuitive Eating, The Inside Scoop on Eating Disorder Recovery - Advice from two therapists who have been there. Colleen Reichmann, PSYD & Jennifer Rollin, LCSW-C, Routledge, 2021.



FUNdraising Corner

Boosterthon Success!

We have officially wrapped up our Bobcats Totally Rad 80's DanceFit program. We raised \$48,227, some of which is going toward new laptop computers for our beloved McKitrick teachers! On behalf of the entire McKitrick PTA, I would like to give a big THANK YOU to the entire Bobcat community for all your help with the fundraiser.

Also a big thank you to our fundraiser committee on the PTA who pulled together to create some amazing decorations around the school. Although we didn't hit our goal of \$50,000 (we came close!), we will be able to replace several laptop computers for our teachers who very much need new laptops!

We are working on contracting a date for the fundraiser for next year and hope to bring back the Fun Run (fingers crossed!) and use our new track!

- Fundraising Team

MCKITRICK'S DINE OUT UPDATE

McKitrick families raised \$520 for McKitrick PTA with their Dine Out participation at Chick-fil-A last month. **Thank you McKitrick families for your support!** The committee is working on another Dine Out event for Spring. Watch the McKitrick Facebook page for more info!



SCHOOL Fundraising UPDATES

HOW TO EARN BOX TOPS MAKES IT EASY.

All you need is your phone! Download the Box Tops app, shop as you normally would, then use the app to scan your store receipt within 14 days of purchase. The app will identify Box Tops products on your receipt and automatically credit your school's earnings online. **Twice a year, your school will receive a check and can use that cash to buy whatever it needs!**

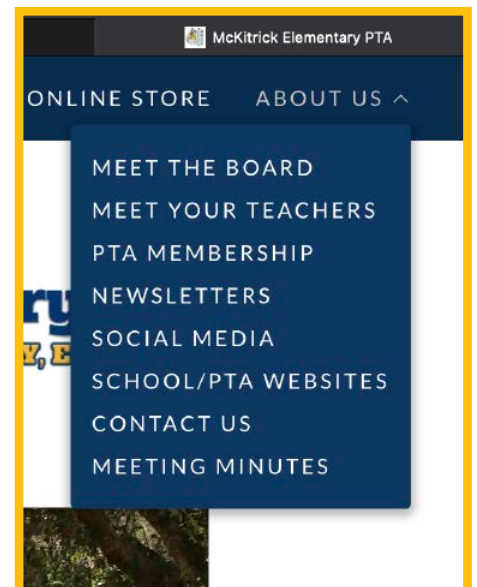
NEW!! Meet Your Teacher

A brand new feature called "Meet Your Teacher" can now be found on the McKitrick PTA website under the "About Us" tab.

This includes the personal lists of favorite things for each participating teacher. This is the perfect reference for the upcoming holidays, teacher appreciation week, birthday's, etc. or just to get to know more about your child's teacher(s)!

Please check it out at the link below!

<https://mckitrickpta.com/meet-your-teachers>



December's McKitrick Business Partner Spotlight: **PINCHASERS**

About Pin Chasers

Pin Chasers is a second-generation family-owned bowling business based in Tampa, Florida for over 60 years. We are in the bowling business because we love it!

With three locations (two in Tampa and one in Zephyrhills), we're conveniently located for a night out, a birthday party, a day with the family or league bowling.

Better Bowling

At Pin Chasers we provide 360 degree bowling services. We've got leagues for everyone from beginners to pros. Want to improve your bowling skills? Take one of our bowling classes. We offer tournaments, cyber and late night bowling. We also host TONS of events! From birthday parties to fundraisers, corporate events to team building – we do it all. On top of that, we offer special events just for kids.

Free Shoes

When you bowl at Pin Chasers, the shoes are always free! We've got shoes for everyone – from a toddler's size 8 to a men's size 16. If you forget to bring socks with you, no worries. Just ask us and we'll give you a new pair.

Fresh Food and Tasty Drinks

When you come bowling, come hungry. We've got plenty of options for every appetite – burgers, sandwiches, pizza, quesadillas, salads and kids meals at our Ten Pin Grill. Pin Chasers even serves breakfast, and not just in the morning. Order it anytime! Everything is prepared fresh – just how you like it.

Thirsty?

We serve Pepsi products, coffee and tea. If you are in the mood for an adult beverage, Pin Chasers also has a full-service bar serving beer, wine and great cocktails.

More Fun!

We take being in the "fun business" very seriously. Your experience as our guest is very important to us. We promise you a fun, easy, hassle-free bowling experience with great food and drinks, and an entertaining atmosphere. We back up this promise with our Pin Chasers guarantee – have a great experience or it's on us!



In 2022, it will be even easier to have FUN with the Pin Chasers Xtra app. Download the app, book your lane, order food and keep your scores!



Yvonne T. McKitrick Elementary School

2021-2022 PTA COMMITTEE

President: Lindsay Jimison

Vice President: Jessica Campbell

Treasurer: Erin Circelli

Recording Secretary: Tanya Kayani

Parent Outreach: Amanda Hurst

Fundraising: Megan Wilson

Special Events: Lindsay Whitney

Student/School Support: Brandi Kenny

Programs: Jessica Diefenderfer

Communications: Steve Clark

**Newcomers/Kindergarten Round Up:
Chryssa Samhoury & Farheen Aldeen**

Parents Club: Chryssa Samhoury

All Pro Dads: Jason Crow

Homeroom Parents: Darbie Wilder

Volunteer Coordinator: Yajaira Chappelle

Memberships: Amanda Hurst

Spirit Wear: Salina Ruiz

**Boosterthon: Erin Circelli,
Viviana Lit & Adam Grier**

Holiday Shop: Jessica Diefenderfer

**Bobcat Bash: Katie Stahl,
Kara MANNALL & Violetta Fahie**

Business Partners: Emily Draper

**Family Dine Outs: Kristin Swenson
& Melissa Chevalier**

Box Tops: Kimberly Olson

**Sweetheart Event: Lisa Peluso,
Tanya Kayani & Jessica Diefenderfer**

**Knights Event: Evan Walker
& Adam Grier**

**Concessions: Louise Johnstone
& Iris Sims**

**Family Nights: Amy Sweeney,
Melissa Chevalier & Punit Shah**

Fifth Grade Activities: Jaclyn Young

**School-Wide Hospitality/Decorating:
Open Position**

Open House: Adi Kaplan

**Teacher Appreciation: Lauren Borio, Louise
Johnstone, Viviana Lit & Violetta Fahie**

**Health & Safety: Jessica Greene
& Katalin Vinci-Sierra**

**Reflections: Katie Stahl
& Meredith Renuart**

Tutoring: Erin Dombrosky

**Junior Achievement: Rick MANNALL
& Loren Mednick**

McKitrick Cares: Heather Foster

IT- Website: Cassandra Johnson

IT- Google/Website Back Up: Billy Stahl

Yearbook: Robert Hudson

Social Media: Priya Davbhat

Newsletter: Kara MANNALL

Front Marquee: Billy Stahl

**McKitrick Elementary
The School Where "It" Happens!**