



FEBRUARY 2022, VOLUME 22, ISSUE 2

# BULLETIN

Yvonne T. McKitrick Elementary School

## Message from the PTA President

Welcome to the second half of the school year! We have a lot of exciting updates within the PTA coming up! Please continue to read the newsletter for elaboration on the topics below.

- Save the date for the next PTA General Meeting Monday, February 28th at 5:30pm
- We have renewed the Boosterthon fundraising program for the 2022/2023 school year. Exact dates will be announced once next school year's PTA calendar is official.
- Junior Achievement will be brought back this year virtually.
- Spirit Wear is working on hosting a spring t shirt sale.
- Kindergarten roundup is being hosted the week of February 21st.
- 43 laptops have been purchased and are expected to arrive before the end of the school year. The PTA donated the rest of the funds that were committed to the school to purchase more laptops at the beginning of the school year. These funds should cover close to 15 additional laptops for our school. That is a total of 58 laptops your donation money has helped contribute to the purchase of teacher laptops. Thank you to all our families and friends for your support and donations!
- PTA is working with administrators on goals for our next fundraiser. If you have any thoughts or would like to participate in fundraising at McKitrick, please email [fundraising@mckitrickpta.com](mailto:fundraising@mckitrickpta.com).

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](mailto:president@mckitrickpta.com)

## CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

### February 2022

- 8<sup>th</sup> - Internet Safety Day
- 11<sup>th</sup> - McKitrick Sweetheart Dance
- 11<sup>th</sup> - Spiritwear Sale Begins
- 18<sup>th</sup> - President's Day - No School
- 21<sup>st</sup> - Non Student Day
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Jersey Mike's Fundraiser
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - Kindergarten Round Up (Virtual)
- 25<sup>th</sup> - All Pro Dads Meeting
- 25<sup>th</sup> - Spiritwear Sale Last Day
- 28<sup>th</sup> - PTA General Meeting
- 28<sup>th</sup> - Deadline for 5th Grade Yearbook Ads

### March 2022

- 7<sup>th</sup> - Non Student Day
- 14<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> Spring Break
- 21<sup>st</sup> - Non Student Day
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Students Return to School
- 25<sup>th</sup> - All Pro Dads Meeting

**McKitrick Elementary**  
5503 Lutz Lake Fern Road  
Lutz, Florida 33558  
813.558.5427

*Principal/Administrator:*  
**Allison Cline**



# SAFER INTERNET DAY IS FEBRUARY 8, 2022



# S

## Stay Safe

Don't give out your personal information to people / places you don't know.



# M

## Don't Meet Up

Meeting someone you have only been in touch with online can be dangerous. Always check with an adult you trust.



# A

## Accepting Files

Accepting emails, files, pictures or texts from people you don't know can cause problems.



# R

## Reliable?

Check information before you believe it. Is the person or website telling the truth?



# T

## Tell Someone

Tell an adult if someone or something makes you feel worried or uncomfortable.

Follow these SMART tips to keep yourself safe online!

© Teaching Ideas  
www.teachingideas.co.uk

Join us virtually for

## McKitrick PTA General Meeting

February 28, 2022 | 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

Agenda & Virtual Meeting Info will be posted prior to the meeting in the calendar section of [mckitrickpta.com](http://mckitrickpta.com)

This meeting PTA members will be voting on revised mid year budget & electing the nominating committee that will prepare slate of McKitrick PTA officers for 2022/23 school year.

# amazon smile

You shop. Amazon gives.

## Are You a Frequent Shopper on Amazon?

Make Sure to Sign up for an Amazon Smile Account and Assign McKitrick Elementary School to Receive 0.5% of All Purchases!

UPCOMING SCHOOLWIDE CELEBRATION!

# HELP US CELEBRATE THIS SPECIAL TWOSDAY 2/22/22 AT SCHOOL!!



**SCHOOL  
WIDE  
EVENT**

**HAPPY  
TWO  
DAY!**  
= tuesday, 2/22/22 =



***Let's celebrate!***

**WEAR THE NUMBER 2,  
WEAR A TUTU  
OR  
DRESS LIKE A TWIN**



## New to McKittrick?

If you are new to McKittrick either this year or last...

Please visit [www.McKittrickPTA.com](http://www.McKittrickPTA.com) to purchase your membership and get signed up for our

### NEWCOMERS INFORMATION WELCOME PACKET

**Questions?** Please email  
Chryssa & Farheen  
[Newcomers@McKittrickPTA.com](mailto:Newcomers@McKittrickPTA.com)



## QUICK LINKS

[McKittrick PTA Website](#)

[McKittrick PTA Store](#)

[McKittrick PTA Facebook](#)

[McKittrick PTA Twitter](#)

[McKittrick Elementary Website](#)

[2021-2022 School Calendar](#)

[McKittrick Lunch Menus](#)

[Meal Pre-Pay](#)

# JOIN THE MCKITTRICK *Parents Club*

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



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



JOIN US FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup> *thru* FEBRUARY 24<sup>TH</sup> FOR A

# FUNDRAISER!

PROUDLY SUPPORTING

**McKitrick Elem PTA**



17471 N. Dale Mabry Hwy. • Lutz, FL • 813-265-1956

FOR EACH COUPON REDEEMED JERSEY MIKE'S SUBS WILL  
**DONATE \$2.00** TO MCKITRICK ELEM PTA

**BE ON THE LOOKOUT - FLYERS WITH  
COUPONS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO  
STUDENTS BY MON, 2/21!**



# 2022 Excellence in Education Awards

**Our very own, Mrs. Liisa DiTarando, SEL Resource Specialist,** was recently honored at the 2022 Excellence in Education Awards event on January 20th by the Hillsborough Education Foundation, in partnership with Hillsborough County Public Schools. 675 nominees were chosen by their peers from schools across the district, including 13 finalists. Awards went to Teacher of the Year, Ida S. Baker Diversity Educator of the Year, and Instructional Support Employee of the year. These individuals are educators and school personnel who consistently bring forth their best efforts and utilize their talents to ensure all students benefit from a high-quality education.

After Mrs. DiTarando was nominated as the Ida S. Baker award winner this past fall at McKitrick, she was then one of the 13 finalists to be honored for going above and beyond to meet the needs of our diverse student population. One of her students spoke at the event and said it best, "I've known Ms. D since I was in third grade. During that time, there are 4 words that she has said to me every single day. Those 4 words are, I believe in you. It doesn't matter if I'm having a good day or a bad day. She always lets me know that she believes in me and knowing that she is there for me has made a huge difference in my life. Ms. D has spent hours teaching me that I'm important and that I can achieve ANYTHING I want."



The McKitrick PTA is proud to call Mrs. DiTarando a Bobcat and our entire school community is so thankful for the impact she has on our children every day. **Congratulations Mrs. D!**

## SHARE YOUR LOVE

2022 McKitrick Yearbook Dedication Ads for 5th Graders are on sale now! Space is VERY limited so order early to reserve your spot! Your ad must be designed at the time of purchase. Questions? Email [yearbook@mckitrickpta.com](mailto:yearbook@mckitrickpta.com)



**DEADLINE APPROACHING SOON!**  
**PLACE YOUR**  
**ORDERS BEFORE FEB 28TH**  
<https://mckitrickpta.com/yearbook>



# Boosterthon date has been set for October 2022! Introducing the Character Theme, “Grand Land Adventure!”



Hey McKitrick team,

The preview video for our brand-new character theme, Grand Land Adventure just dropped!

Check out the preview here: <https://www.boosterthon.com/grand-land-adventure>

Password:

**ADVENTURE123**

*(password is case sensitive!)*

We hope you are as excited as we are for your students to find passion in adventuring outdoors and inspiring them to live with character.

Your dates are being held and I sent over the agreement for next year. Once that is signed, your dates for next year will be booked! Let me know if you have any questions.





# FUNdraising Corner

## SAVE THE DATE

# MCKITRICK PTA SPIRIT WEAR SPRING SALE

## FEBRUARY 11TH - 25TH

- GET YOUR HANDS ON NEW SPIRIT WEAR DESIGNS TO WEAR ON SCHOOL SPIRIT FRIDAYS!!
- ITEMS STARTING AS LOW AS \$12.00!!
- PORTION OF SALES GO BACK TO OUR SCHOOL!!

**STAY TUNED!!  
FLYERS GOING HOME THIS WEEK  
WITH MORE DETAILS**



## SCHOOL Fundraising UPDATES

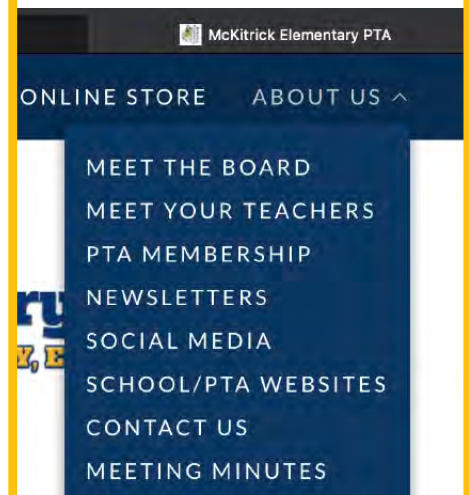
### HOW TO EARN BOX TOPS MAKES IT EASY.

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!**

## 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.

**CHECK IT OUT RIGHT HERE!**  
<https://mckitrickpta.com/meet-your-teachers>







# Save The Date

## Virtual

### Kindergarten Roundup

#### Wednesday, Feb 23, 2022

Please Contact Raquel in the front office to make an appointment for registration or if you have any questions.

813-558-5427



### VISIT THE DENTIST EVERY SIX MONTHS

Take your child to see a pediatric dentist by his or her first birthday to establish a DENTAL HOME. Your dentist can help you establish a daily regimen, provide recommendations and determine your next visit. The routine cleanings help remove bacteria like Tartar and gingivitis

### WHERE DO CAVITIES COME FROM?

Everyone has harmful bacteria in their mouths that get energy from the sugar we consume, in the process it produces acid. This acid causes cavities to form. Here are important tips to help kids have cavity-free mouths— at all ages! BRUSH, BRUSH, BRUSH Remember to brush your child's teeth at least TWICE A DAY, once in the morning and once at night. The most important time to brush your child's teeth is RIGHT BEFORE BEDTIME.



### Can I sit with my child during a cleaning or a treatment?

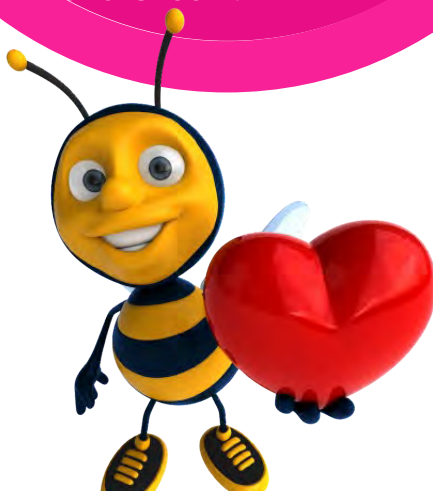
Yes! We allow one parent back in the room with the patient. We find that having more than one person in the room is distracting to the patient and to us. Some parents are nervous about treatment and opt to stay in the waiting room as not to pass the nerves onto the patient. Children can be very intuitive about what their parents are feeling, so if you feel like you will pass your feelings or anxiety onto them, we encourage you to consider staying out of the room.

### Better words to say when at the dentist

INSTEAD OF SAYING.....		SAY.....	
Dental Drill		Mr. Bumpy	
Suction		Mr. Thirsty	
Bite Block (to assist opening)		Tooth Chair	
Shot		Blowing a Bubble	
Pull a Tooth/Extract		Wiggle a Tooth	
Nitrous Oxide (N2O)		Happy Air/ Silly Gas	
Dental Exam		Counting Teeth	
Cavity / Decay		Sugar Bugs	

### HELP OR SUPERVISE BRUSHING

Parents should help their children 6 years OR YOUNGER brush and floss their teeth. Parents should supervise oral hygiene for school-aged children until they're SEVEN OR EIGHT YEARS OLD.



# McKitrick Business Partner Spotlight: **THREE BROTHERS PIZZA**

We have been proud supporters of the Odessa community since May 29, 2015. Due to our growth, we have been able to serve surrounding communities by expanding to locations in Palm Harbor and Town N Country. We have word from our contractors that our Odessa location should be up and running no later than May of this year. We miss everyone and cannot wait to be back!!



---

---

# McKitrick Business Partner Spotlight: **TITAN SPINE AND SPORTS MEDICINE**

Titan Spine and Sports Medicine is dedicated to the health and individual performance of our patients. Our helpful and caring team strives for excellence through patient care, customer service and patient education. Our goal is to get you better, keep you better, and having you performing at your best everyday.

Because life is an athletic event...

We have provided care for the Tampa Bay area since 2004 with world class Chiropractic and Sports Medicine for musculoskeletal and biomechanical conditions that occur during sporting and athletic activities, work-related injuries, auto accidents, or just everyday "wear and tear."



## **THE SERVICES WE PROVIDE...**

**Performance Chiropractic Care**

**Sports Injury Management**

**Massage Therapy**

**Cryotherapy**

**Clinical Laboratory Testing including Blood Testing and Urinalysis**

**Functional Movement Screening**

**Pre-Participation Examinations for Youth / Middle / High School Sports**



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 Coleman & 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 Coleman  
& 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 Coleman**

**Front Marquee: Billy Stahl**

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