



OCTOBER 2021, VOLUME 21, ISSUE 10

BULLETIN

Yvonne T. McKitrick Elementary School

Message from the PTA President

Hi McKitrick Bobcats! As we roll into Fall, I'd like to thank our awesome volunteers on the PTA for all their hard work. We have been "pivoting" this school year and each committee is working on finding ways to do fun, safe family events. I hope you were able to come out and attend the Chicken Salad Chick fundraiser put on by our awesome Dine Out Committee. We were able to show our school spirit while also supporting a local restaurant who supports us by bridging the gap between the school-community relationship.

Our Newcomer Committee hosted a park playdate and new families were able to meet. This was widely successful and we hope to do more events like this in the future.

We also have a National Walk & Bike Safety Day coming up this month as well as a school wide Fall Festival Drive Through event. More information is detailed below in the newsletter. I would also like to thank our awesome McKitrick teachers for being so patient and flexible during these crazy times. Our Hospitality Committee helped show them some love last month by helping organize a basket for the teacher lounge filled with goodies. We hope they enjoyed them!

Our McKitrick PTA was enrolled in the School of Excellence program this year. The School of Excellence is a recognition program which honors and supports a PTA who makes a year long commitment to improve family school partnerships at their schools. With this program comes stronger family engagement as well as opportunities for grants and scholarships. More information to come on this!

If you have any questions for the PTA or would like to get involved, please let us know!

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

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

October

- 6th - National Walk & Bike to School Day
- 8th - End of 1st Grading Period
- 18th - BOOSTERTHON Registration Opens
- 20th - All Pro Dads Connect Event
- 21st - Reflections Arts Program Application Deadline
- 25th - McKitrick Cares Coat Drive Week
- 27th - McKitrick Fall Festival Drive Thru

November

- 1st - McKitrick BOOSTERTHON Fundraiser Kick Off
- 7th - Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 11th - Veterans Day - No School
- 15th - Dine Out Night @ Chick-Fil-A
- 22nd - 26th - FALL BREAK- No School

December

- 6th - 10th - McKitrick Cares Holiday Toy Drive
- 20th - Jan. 3rd - WINTER BREAK- No School

McKitrick Elementary

5503 Lutz Lake Fern Road
Lutz, Florida 33558
813.558.5427

Principal/Administrator:
Allison Cline



Hillsborough County
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Preparing Students for Life



mckitrickpta.com



McKitrickpta



mckitrickpta



A NOTE FROM OUR

Principal

McKittrick Parents and Families,

I just wanted to say Thank You for being so supportive during the unusual start to school! The staff has been feeling the support from all of you and it is so appreciated! The PTA has brought the Teachers, Bus Drivers, Student Nutrition Team, & Custodians treats as well! We truly appreciate this kindness!

We are working with PTA to help bridge the communication lines and trying to have safe and healthy events where we can be together. The Chicken Salad Chick Dine Out was fun and exciting to see all who attended. Look for more information coming about an event in October!

We are getting close to the end of the first nine weeks already! At this time, students should be settling in with classmates and their teacher. Conferences are being held and we are full steam ahead with fun engaging lessons. Ask your student if they have completed their Science Olympic task yet. I've seen some very cool and exciting learning around campus this week!

I do have one thing to ask of our carline parents. Please do not line up before 1pm. We need to keep the carline empty most of the day, in case of an emergency. I appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

As always if you need anything, please call the office. We are here to support you as well!

Allison Cline
Principal

MCKITTRICK  **ELEMENTARY**

The School Where "It" Happens!



Hey Parents! Tired of car line?

OCTOBER 6 IS NATIONAL WALK AND BIKE TO SCHOOL SAFETY DAY!

Join the McKittrick Elementary PTA for a walking school bus. We will meet in the parking lot at Hope Church at 6:50am on October 6 and walk to school as a group at 7:00am. Help us celebrate all the benefits of walking and biking safely!

When: October 6

Time: 6:50am

Where: Hope Church
5107 W Lutz Lake Fern Rd

Masks strongly encouraged!

** We recommend walking due to limited bike storage space on campus



McKitrick Staff Appreciation

Last month, our PTA provided treat bags to show our appreciation for our wonderful McKitrick bus drivers, custodians, and student nutrition staff. As you know, our school staff has had to face a lot of challenges so far this school year as they continue to navigate the pandemic and we are so grateful for all that they do to keep our kids safe, healthy, and fed! **THANK YOU!**



Last month, our PTA was thrilled to stock the teacher lounge with snacks, treats, and coffee. Our teachers always work hard, but this year has presented additional challenges and we are so happy to show our appreciation for all they do! THANK YOU teachers! A big thanks to our PTA business partner, Urgent Care and Wellness Center in Lutz, for sponsoring this teacher appreciation treat.

We look forward to another opportunity to show our teachers love during Teacher Appreciation Week in May! If you would like to volunteer to help out, please contact teacherappreciation@mckitrickpta.com.



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](#)

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!



Thank You to all the new Bobcat families who joined the PTA at Villa Rosa park for our Fall Parents Club social!

We all had a great time getting to know one another while making new friends! We can't wait to see you at our next event!





The McKitrick PTA
Membership
Contest ends October 31st!

**We are
84% to
reaching
our goal
Bobcats!**



WE HAVE 755 MEMBERS!
HELP US BEAT LAST YEAR'S
RECORD-BUY YOUR
MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

The class with the most memberships at
the end of October wins a PARTY!!!!

www.mckitrickpta.com

MCKITRICK PTA MEMBERSHIP!

IT'S ELEMENTARY!

JOIN
PTA
TODAY!

COST:
1-\$6.00
2-\$12.00
3-\$16.00
4-\$20.00
5-\$24.00

Be part of the
larger **VOICE**
VOTE

on hot issues

Be in the **KNOW**

Help **ADVANCE**
State, local & national
LAWS!

WHO
CAN
JOIN?

Anyone

Boys & Girls

Community
Members

family, friends, neighbors, students
siblings! Every member counts!

How do I join?

Buy online @ mckitrickpta.com



Save the DATE!!!

**McKitrick PTA would like to invite you
to our
FALL FESTIVAL (drive-thru edition).**

**Wednesday, October 27th from
5:00pm -7:00pm.**

**Join us by car in the McKitrick
Carpool line! You will be treated by
Teachers and PTA members by the
Bobcat signs! Fall costumes can be
worn to join in the fun! We look
forward to having you see what
we've done! Bring a basket or bucket
to collect a few treats, we can't
wait to see you in a couple of weeks!**



**McKitrick Cares will be accepting
coats, sweatshirts and jackets for
elementary-age kids sizes up
through adult small. Clothing should be
laundered and ready-to-wear.**





FUNdraising Corner

THANK YOU!!!

Thank you so much to everyone who came out for our September Dine Out at Chicken Salad Chick! McKitrick families spent over \$2800 and raised \$450 for our school! And a special thank you to all the teachers and staff who came and helped as well. It was wonderful to see how excited the students were to see their teachers! The McKitrick sense of community is strong and we definitely felt it that day!

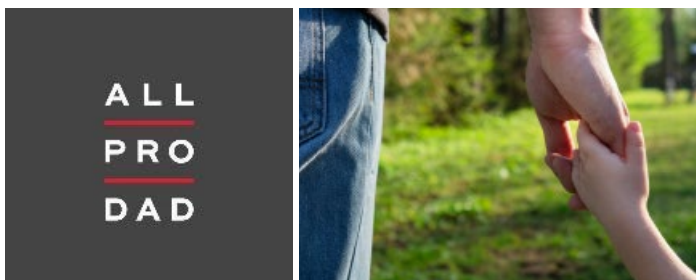
SAVE THE DATE FOR MCKITRICK'S NEXT DINE OUT

And don't forget to save the date for our next McKitrick Dine Out. **Chick-fil-A will host McKitrick families on Monday, November 15th, all day (6:00 AM - 10:00 PM).** Dine in or take out, just mention McKitrick and your family will help raise funds for our school. Mark your calendars now!

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!**



MCKITRICK ALL PRO DADS!

Hello from All Pro Dad's! While we continue to look at alternate off campus meeting venues and times, we will be hosting an *All Pro Dad's Connect Event on Wednesday, October 20th*. We will be meeting at the ¡Cuatro Restaurant at Tampa Bay TPC from 5:30-7:30PM. The address is 5300 West Lutz Lake Fern Road in Lutz. This will be an opportunity to get together and spend time with other dads in our community. Look forward to seeing everyone there.

McKitrick's Fall Fundraiser is Coming!



MYBOOSTER.COM

SAVE THE DATES!

MCKITRICK ELEMENTARY FALL
FUNDRAISER!

REGISTRATION OPENS: 10/18 KICKOFF: 11/1

A young girl with glasses and a white t-shirt with a purple paw print and 'CES' on it is smiling and raising her arms in excitement. The background is a vibrant, colorful abstract design with purple and blue light streaks.

McKitrick Cares

The Annual McKitrick Cares Coat Drive is on October 25th - 29th.

Donation boxes will be outside of the front office and the cafeteria. We will also be collecting donations during the Fall Festival drive-thru event on October 27th if that's more convenient for you.

Accepting coats, sweatshirts, jackets and winter gear for elementary kid sizes up through adult large. If you don't have anything to donate on hand, check out our local thrift stores. They have great deals on gently used items.



GIVE THE GIFT OF WARMTH

McKitrick Cares Coat Drive

Accepting coats, sweatshirts and jackets for elementary-age kids sizes up through adult large. Clothing should be laundered and ready-to-wear.

OCTOBER 25 - 29, 2021

Donation Boxes located outside of front office and cafeteria.

We will also be collecting during the Fall Festival drive-thru event on October 27th from 5:00-7:00pm



All donations will be given to students at McKitrick, Alexander and Bay Crest Elementary Schools.

Many kids come to school underdressed during the colder months. Let's show up by providing outerwear to keep them warm.

mckitrickcares@mckitrickpta.com

**LAST CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE
SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS:
OCTOBER 21ST.**

This year's theme is: **I Will Change The World By...**

CALLING ALL

**Artist
Choreographers
Composers
Dancers
Film Producers
Musicians
Photographers
Writers**



Interested in More Information?

Information can be found at: www.McKitrickPTA.com

You can also email us at: Reflections@McKitrickPTA.com and we will send you an Informational Packet and answer any questions you may have about the program.

This is a National Program with Awards available for our Students at the School, County, State and National Levels.

MobyMax

October Contest



Math Tabs

**OCT
1-31**

**Math, Numbers or
Fact Fluency**

Reach your grade level
goal and earn a
Math Award Charm and

**Bahama Bucks
Certificate**



**Kinder and 1st
Complete 80 minutes or more!**

**2nd and 3rd
Complete 120
minutes or more!**

**4th and 5th
Complete 150 minutes or more!**

October's McKitrick Business Partner Spotlight: Bach To Rock

This is an open letter to all the Bobcat students, families, teachers, and administration. Our message is simple: Thank You!

Thank you for helping Bach to Rock recover quickly after we went to all virtual lessons from March to June 2020. Like most small businesses operating during a pandemic, we worried about keeping our staff in place and keeping our doors open. Bach to Rock was lucky...we hit a few minor bumps, but our business is stronger than ever in 2021. We credit this to the strong support of the Bobcats families. Bach to Rock teaches over 350 music students weekly and the biggest percentage is from McKitrick Elementary.



It's amazing that many of our original McKitrick students from 2019 are still taking private music/DJ lessons or are members of one of our 13 bands. Some are now Martinez Mustangs, our second largest percentage of students, and have grown into very talented young musicians.

We don't know what this school year will bring, but we hope to have the opportunity to participate in the Bobcat Bash, the Sweetheart Dance and more! It is so exciting to get on the microphone and say hello to the B2R/McKitrick students and their families! It is equally as exciting to talk to kids who are interested in learning to sing, or play an instrument, or mix on our DJ equipment.

We look forward to continuing to support the awesome McKitrick PTA as a business partner in 2021 and beyond. Please stay safe and once again, THANK YOU for supporting Bach to Rock!



At Home or At School

Show Your School Spirit!!



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 McKitrick!

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

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

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



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



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

MCKITRICK ELEMENTARY WHERE "IT" HAPPENS!

HALLOWEEN CANDY TIPS



Halloween is a fun time for children and a favorite holiday for many. It is a time to be able to express yourself through costume and imagination. As parents, we get to create great memories and along the way it is an opportunity to teach our kids about candy, sugar, and good nutrition in general. Maintaining a healthy balance between all foods helps our children learn to have a healthy relationship with food. We can make room for ALL foods in our children's diet if we strive for a healthy balance.

Here are a few Tips to find Balance between Fun and Good Health on Halloween:

TIP 1: Exercise. Encourage your children to walk from house to house as much as possible instead of riding in a car or golf cart. This holiday is a great way to be active as a family and take advantage of burning some calories before indulging in candy.

TIP 2: Sort candy out. At the end of the night go through all the candy collected and throw out any candy with wrappers open, choking hazards, or homemade treats with unknown ingredients. Dispose of or donate candy that your children don't like (leave this decision up to them to empower them to make decisions, give them some control, and to learn about how foods make them feel).

TIP 3: Don't restrict candy amount the night of Halloween or for 2-3 days after. This is another opportunity for children to learn about intuitive eating and limits for their body. They also wait all year to eat as much candy as they want for these few days. Your child may end up with a belly ache, which gives parents a chance to help them understand that too much sugar or too much of any food can cause this to happen. Often, after a few days the excitement wears off and it becomes just another food. They may also start to forget about the stash all together.

TIP 4: Spread the candy out throughout the following weeks. Make a candy basket in the pantry where your child can pick 1-2 candies out to put in their lunch box to enjoy with a balanced meal. This will make them look forward to the next treat as well as limit the amount they have each day. You may also let them have a few after dinner as well. Try not to make candy a reward because this can cause an unhealthy relationship with sweets. Just make sure to encourage good brushing and flossing for dental health!

TIP 5: Don't forget to continue to incorporate a healthy balanced diet during the holiday season. Although this time of year can increase sugar content in the diet, don't forget to continue to offer healthy snacks and meals. Talk with your child about eating the fruits and vegetables in their lunch or dinner first, before choosing the candy. Their little bellies may be too full to eat all the candy in their lunch or dinner.

Remember this time of year is about family, fun and celebration. It is a good time to teach about nutrition and the foods to eat more often and the ones to eat less often and to help flourish a healthy relationship with all food.

HAVE A HAPPY HALLOWEEN



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: Sangati Gandhi

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:
Crissy Blair & Erin Dombrosky**

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!**