



**Building for Success**  
**2010-2011**

# The Barksdale Round-Up

A Publication of the Barksdale PTA  
Volume 15 issue 2 August 2010

## *Dear Barksdale Parents and Students:*

It's good to be back! The first week of school has been awesome! The teachers and students have made the transition from a very long summer with little difficulty.

I would like to thank the parents who have attended the Meet the Teacher and our Parent Night Meetings. Your willingness to participate in your child's education benefits them academically, socially, and behaviorally. I also want to thank the many volunteers who have helped throughout the summer and final weeks prior to the start of school. We couldn't do it without your time and energy.

As you know the weather continues to be hot and uncomfortable. Plano Independent School District has specific guidelines for playing outdoors during extremely hot weather or on days when the ozone level is orange or red. Nurse Penny keeps the teachers well informed of these issues on a daily basis. Please dress your child in warm weather clothing with a light jacket or sweater since the rooms are often cool. They may bring water bottles filled with water only.

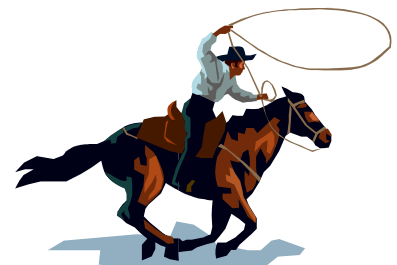
This year we will put a renewed emphasis on respect and responsibility, reintroducing our Barksdale Manners and positive behavior support. We will continue to work to create an environment where children feel safe from teasing and name-calling.

As we begin the school year, please get to know your child(ren)'s teachers and routines. If you have questions regarding the grade level curriculum or procedures, please contact the classroom teacher. He or she is the most knowledgeable about classroom events. Questions regarding the social or emotional well-being of your children should be brought to the attention of one of our counselors, DeLynn Brennan or Jody Clark. Office procedures can best be explained by the secretary, Nancy Ahnemann. The new assistant principal, Patricia Hempstead, and I are available to answer questions regarding PISD policies and procedures and/or questions related to campus-wide programs. Our doors are always open.

We look forward to working with you as the 2010-2011 school year gets off to a great start!

*Happy Trails!*

*Pamela Murray*  
*Principal*



## From the President....

Welcome Back! I trust everyone is getting used to early mornings, homework and new routines after summer break. I'd like to thank all of the committee chairs and volunteers for their efforts over the summer—especially in the weeks leading up to the start of school. There were over 50 volunteers who helped plan, setup and work at Packet Pickup. My thanks to all of you.



If you are new to Barksdale, I think you will find this to be a great school, filled with gifted and caring teachers, hard working administrators, and involved parents. There are many opportunities for you to become involved, and I want to encourage you to do so. Thanks to all the parents who joined us early Monday morning for our Welcome Back Coffee. We had the added bonus of being able to witness the 1st Day of School Flag Raising Ceremony. What a treat!

I would also like to thank all the families who donated to our Bronco Buddy campaign. Without your generous donations, we would not be able to provide the students and staff with all of the programs, activities, supplies and funding that help make our school a great place to learn.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have a question regarding the PTA or ways in which you can volunteer your time and talents.

*Susan Valesano*

[president@barksdalepta.org](mailto:president@barksdalepta.org)

972-473-8095

### Barksdale's Newcomers Luncheon & Volunteer Orientation

**You are cordially invited to the Barksdale Newcomer's Lunch. Our Principal, Mrs. Pam Murray, and the Barksdale PTA would like to personally welcome you to our school. Formal invitations will be sent to our new families shortly.**

**Please save the date!**

**Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
11:30am - 1:00pm  
Barksdale Library**

**If you have any questions or to R.S.V.P., please contact Brenna Vivier at 214-384-4273 or [newcomers@barksdalepta.org](mailto:newcomers@barksdalepta.org).**



The PTA would like to thank all of the families who fought the August heat and came to Packet Pickup. Thank you for your

generous support of our PTA Bronco Buddy fundraiser. For those of you who haven't had the chance to donate, but would like to, a contribution form is included in this newsletter. As a reminder, all dollar amounts are welcomed and appreciated AND your contribution is fully tax deductible. If your company provides matching grants to charitable organizations, we are able to double your donation to the PTA.

All monies raised by the Bronco Buddy program go to support the many activities sponsored by the PTA annually. Funds raised by this program enable us to reduce our need for other fundraising activities in the course of a school year. Our goal this year was \$17,000, and we are shy of this goal by \$3,500. Without additional donations, we may need to cut back on some of the programs activities that we typically provide to the students, staff and parents or we will need to add another fundraiser this year. If you have any questions regarding the Bronco Buddy program, please contact Heather Brown, Vice President, Ways and Means, or Susan Valesano, PTA President.

# School News

## Parent Information Night

Thursday, August 26th  
3rd, 4th and 5th Grades  
6:00 -7:15 PM in the cafeteria

### Spirit Nights are Coming!

**Yogurtville** Monday, August 30th  
Cool off with a refreshing treat!  
**Chick-fil-a** Tuesday, September 7th  
Don't cook! Meet your friends for dinner!

PTA receives a percentage of the receipts from our Spirit nights.



### PISD Parent Portal

- One of the goals at Barksdale this year is to reduce the amount of paper sent home. The Parent Portal is the way parents will receive communication from both Barksdale and the school district. Go to <http://parent.mypisd.net>.
- With Parent Portal, you will sign up to receive automatic email subscriptions and are able to view many reports about your children, including, but not limited to:
  - Absences
  - Detailed Attendance
  - Grade Summary—Detailed Grade information
- The Parent Portal will also give you direct access into your child's myPISD.net classroom information. Teachers provide class calendars, important class files (spelling lists, D.O.L.) informational bulletins, and other instructional material via their class pages.
- New users may register for the Parent Portal online at [www.pisd.edu](http://www.pisd.edu) to setup individual account information for access. Parents should each register their individual e-mail address. If you have children at other schools within PISD— all of their information will appear when you logon to the Parent Portal.
- Teachers are asked to update their students' grades every Monday and attendance will be updated throughout each day. Exceptions may exist to this guideline due to a variety of factors which include holidays, major projects, and teacher absences.
- If you have questions involving registering for the PISD Parent Portal, please email [parentportal@pisd.edu](mailto:parentportal@pisd.edu). Questions regarding grades and attendance and myPISD.net information should be directed to your child's teacher or principal.



### Howdy Week

August 30- September 3

Barksdale celebrates Howdy Week each year to welcome new Broncos to our school. Each day is a chance to dress up, put on a smile, and make new friends.

- Monday** "Be a part of our team!" Wear a jersey from a team you've played on, or a jersey from a favorite professional team.
- Tuesday** "Guess where I went this summer!" Wear a souvenir shirt from this summer's vacation or one from the past!
- Wednesday** "Slip into a new school year!" Wear those slippers or crazy socks. Be sure to bring your other shoes for recess and P.E.
- Thursday** "Howdy to new friends!" Dust off your western wear and say Howdy to a new friend.
- Friday** "Show your Bronco spirit to new Broncos!" Wear your red, white and blue or your Barksdale spirit wear.



# Reminders



## Join us for the Barksdale Fall Family picnic!

Pull up your boots Broncos and bring the whole family...it's free!!!

Mark your calendars now for **September 23rd 5:30 -7:30 PM**  
Bring your lawn chairs, blankets and your own picnic grub! We'll meet at the corral behind the school!

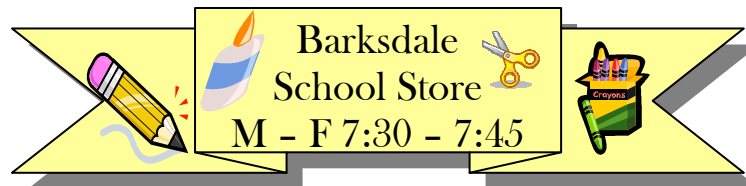
Bounce houses, DJ and more!



This is a great opportunity to meet new classmates and their families and just have some good old fashioned fun!

If you can lend a hand please email Carrie Dietze at:

[hospitality@barksdalepta.org](mailto:hospitality@barksdalepta.org)



It's a new school year and there are many new items at the School Store! In addition to fun merchandise like cute pens and good-smelling erasers, we've also got essential school supplies like folders, notebooks and glue. Help start the school year off right by purchasing forgotten school materials or items for your home office. Best of all, they do the shopping themselves AND the PTA benefits as well. The School Store will be open from Monday through Friday 7:30 - 7:45 am, just outside the cafeteria doors.

## PTA COMMUNICATIONS

- **Our Website**, [www.barksdalepta.org](http://www.barksdalepta.org), always has the information you need. Find the past and current copies of The Round-Up newsletter, PTA contact information, fliers about upcoming events, order forms and more.
- **The Round-Up** newsletter is delivered electronically, usually the last Thursday of the month, with news from Mrs. Murray and Susan Valesano, our PTA President, as well as information about volunteer needs, special events, grade level activities and even a monthly calendar you can print to keep you up to date!
- **YO Packets** come home each Thursday and contain both information from the office and fliers or order forms for specific PTA programs and activities.
- **Weekly E-mail Blasts** are sent out each Sunday to all Barksdale families who provide their e-mail address and check the box that authorizes us to use it for PTA communications on their Family Information Sheet. These short e-mails highlight the events going on at school that week. Just a quick reminder in case you can't find that monthly calendar.

# Join the PTA



Partnerships between parents, educators and children enhance children's success. We know that children learn more and have better lives when everyone in the school community works together to share thoughts and information and work on projects to benefit children. By becoming a member of the Barksdale PTA, you can become an important part of helping to ensure that these plans become a reality. We also welcome your new ideas for the benefit of our children.

We would like for all parents to join to achieve our goal of 100% participation. Thanks to all who have already become PTA members. If you have not already joined, just complete the form below and return with your dues payment to school in an envelope marked "PTA Membership".

The Barksdale PTA supports many activities for all students including, but not limited to: Study Buddies, class parties, 5th grade Graduation, Field Day, Family Art Night, Science & Math Night, Reading Ambassadors, Book Fairs, assemblies and a variety of other programs. We provide funding for teacher appreciation, field trips and student agendas for grades 2-5. We invite ALL parents to join the Barksdale PTA this year. Your continued support enables the PTA to help our students "build for success".

## BARKSDALE PTA MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION FORM 2010-2011

**Single Parent Family \$8**                      **Two-Parent Family \$16**

Please fill out the form below and return in an envelope to the school office, with your check made out to Barksdale PTA.

PTA membership also includes a copy of the Barksdale Student Directory.

PLEASE PRINT

**First Name** (name they go by)                      **Last Name**                      **Grade**

**Student Names:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Mother's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Father's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(First Name, Last Name)                      (First Name, Last Name)

**Mother's Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Street Number and Name**                      **Apt. #**                      **Zip Code**

**Father's Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Street Number and Name**                      **Apt. #**                      **Zip Code**

If you have any questions, please contact Kathrine Tolsch, Membership Chair at [membership@barksdalepta.org](mailto:membership@barksdalepta.org) or 972-608-8910.

# Volunteer Opportunities

We need **YOU** to help build success at Barksdale. Here are some simple steps before you can volunteer:

1. **BE CLEARED TO VOLUNTEER.** Complete Volunteer Application at [www.pisd.edu](http://www.pisd.edu). Be sure to select Barksdale Elementary. **You must re-apply each school year to volunteer within PISD. Clearance does not carry over from year to year.**
2. E-mail [volunteers@barksdalepta.org](mailto:volunteers@barksdalepta.org) and let Denise Stavelly know that you have completed step 1.
3. You must **receive a clearance confirmation e-mail** from the PTA before you can volunteer.
4. **Sign-up to volunteer.** Return the yellow Volunteer Interest Form to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

If you have any questions or would like to sign-up to volunteer in a certain area, please contact Denise Stavelly at [volunteers@barksdalepta.org](mailto:volunteers@barksdalepta.org).

The PTA has several positions on the Board which we would love to have filled. If you are interested in any of the positions below, please contact Susan Valesano, PTA President, at 972-473-8095 for more information about the position.

- Vice President of Communications
- Newsletter
- Science & Technology
- S.A.G.E.
- Chess Program Coordinator



PTA Teacher Treats Chairman Stephany Pencsak provided a delicious Back to School lunch for all the Barksdale Staff on August 20th.



## Barksdale's International Week is now Cultural Diversity Week!

Our goal is to celebrate and appreciate the cultural diversity of our campus during our week-long celebration in March. Please be a part of the planning and execution of this event. For more information, please email Sharmeela Saulsberry at [diversity@barksdalepta.org](mailto:diversity@barksdalepta.org)



## Our Library Needs Your Help

Our librarian needs your help checking out books, shelving, and updating the bulletin board during the school day. It's a fantastic way to help our kids navigate the world of books.

Choose a time that fits your schedule and contribute to the success of our library.

**Contact Poornima Poondi at [library@barksdalepta.org](mailto:library@barksdalepta.org) to volunteer your time.**

# Volunteer Opportunities

## STUDY BUDDY

### Be a Hero ~Mentor a Child

Do you have just 30 minutes a week to make a difference in a child's life? Please consider being a part of our **Study Buddy/Mentoring** program this year. A little bit of you goes a LONG way in helping a young mind and spirit blossom!!!

Contact Kelly Boyd at [studybuddies@barksdalepta.org](mailto:studybuddies@barksdalepta.org) if you can make this weekly investment in one of our Bronco students.



**Calling all of last year's Buddies- "Please come back and mentor again...We know the children would LOVE to see your smiling face again this year."**

## YO Chairperson Needed

Ever wonder how the PTA fliers wind up so effortlessly in your child's backpack every Thursday? A dedicated group of moms who come every Thursday morning to :

- YO stands for "youngest or only". In an effort to save paper, the youngest or only child in a family will bring home any school or PTA communication.
- The YO team has a BLAST each Thursday morning collating, stapling and distributing the YO packets.
- Volunteers can help out every week or once a month. You decide when you want to volunteer. It's up to YOU-we're very flexible.

\*\*\*\*\*

The YO Pack chairman position is open, and needs a mom or dad to help coordinate volunteers. The time commitment is minimal. Please contact Denise Stavelly at [volunteers@barksdalepta.org](mailto:volunteers@barksdalepta.org) if you are interested.

\*\*\*\*\*



Grade level Coordinator: One per grade level. Plans and coordinates three classroom parties during the year with the help of other grade level coordinators, homeroom parents, and teacher input.

Homeroom Parent: Coordinates volunteers and leads three classroom parties during the year.

Workroom Coordinator: One per grade level. Works with teachers to determine materials required each week. Schedules volunteers.

Workroom Volunteer: Prepares materials for the classroom as needed.

Just complete the volunteer finder form and return to school with your child as soon as possible OR contact Patty Cline at [roomreps@barksdalepta.org](mailto:roomreps@barksdalepta.org).



PTA Homeroom Parent Coordinator, Patty Cline, signing up volunteers during Packet Pickup.

# Programs

## Reflections Art Contest



The 2010-2011 theme for the Reflections Art Contest is "Together We Can". Students in grades Kindergarten thru 12th grade are encouraged to submit their artwork which incorporates this year's theme. Winners selected from 6 areas of competition:

- \*Literature
- \*Musical Composition
- \*Photography
- \*Visual Arts
- \*Dance Choreography
- \*Film/Video

For more details regarding rules and entry forms go to [http://www.barksdalepta.org/events\\_programs/reflections\\_201/](http://www.barksdalepta.org/events_programs/reflections_201/)

Contact [reflections@barksdalepta.org](mailto:reflections@barksdalepta.org) for questions.



## After-School Spanish Program

Do you ever wish you knew how to speak Spanish? You can give that opportunity to your child! Again this year, we are offering an after-school Spanish program. Your child will learn Spanish vocabulary, songs, games and culture.

- Classes are offered to all students, K-5th
- Classes meet on Tuesdays from 2:45-4:00
- Classes run September to December AND January to April

You may register online at [spanishschoolhouse.com](http://spanishschoolhouse.com). Question? Contact Sara Beitter at [spanish@barksdalepta.org](mailto:spanish@barksdalepta.org).



## Barksdale has a new Marquee!

With help from a generous donation from Mark, Alice and Meredith Brumback, the PTA was able to purchase a new electronic marquee to replace the old sign that had to be manually changed each week— rain, shine, heat or cold. The flexibility of the new sign will make communicating with our families so much easier!

Thank you PTA and Brumbacks!



## Bronco Buddy Donation Form

Please send to school in an envelope marked to "PTA"



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Your contribution is fully tax deductible 501c(3) contribution, and is eligible for a matching grant from many corporations.

Thank you for your generous donation to the PTA. We appreciate your help in funding the many activities, programs and supplies that we provide for you, your child and the school. For more information about this program and where your money goes, please feel free to contact Susan Valesano, PTA President at [president@barksdalepta.org](mailto:president@barksdalepta.org), or Heather Brown, Vice-President, Ways & Means at [ways@barksdalepta.org](mailto:ways@barksdalepta.org)

# Support Our PTA



the difference  
1 can make.

## Barksdale Needs Box Tops, Tyson's and Campbell's Labels

Look for the labels on the groceries and other items you buy each time you shop! And it's not the "special" items you buy every once in a while—it's the labels or box tops on those items you purchase on a regular basis. Each Box Top or label is worth **10 cents** or a certain number of redeemable points for Barksdale!!! Keep grocery shopping as you normally do, and when something is "used up" at your house, check to see if the package/can has a **Box Top** symbol, **Tyson's** label or **Campbell's** brand label on it. When you see one, **CLIP IT** and drop your stack in the large yellow BOX TOPS box in the school lobby. Last year we raised \$587.00 for the school!

**To see a complete list of eligible Box Tops, Tyson and Campbell's products, go to [http://www.barksdalepta.org/fundraising/box\\_tops\\_for\\_ed/](http://www.barksdalepta.org/fundraising/box_tops_for_ed/)**

If you have questions about this program, please contact Jennifer Ragle at [boxtops@barksdalepta.org](mailto:boxtops@barksdalepta.org)

## BARKSDALE BRONCOS

Check out the awesome **spirit wear** designs on display at school. Grab an order form from the office and turn it in by September 10th! We will not carry inventory so this is your only chance to get this year's designs!

## BARKSDALE



Kelly Boyd and Sara Beitter taking a break from selling School Supplies at Packet Pickup on August 18th.

## Barksdale Student Directory

The Barksdale PTA is soliciting ads for the Student Directory to help offset printing costs and raise money for programs.

Please consider supporting us this year by purchasing an ad for your business in the 2010-2011 Directory. This directory is published once in the fall and delivered to over 500 families and staff at Barksdale.

### Ad Pricing is as follows:

\$275-full page B/W ad

\$175-1/2 page B/W ad

\$100-1/4 page B/W ad

If you are interested in purchasing space, please contact Heather Brown at 469-688-1603 or [ways@barksdalepta.org](mailto:ways@barksdalepta.org).

**Deadline for ads is August 29th!**

# Yearbook Information

## Barksdale Elementary Yearbook Cover Contest!

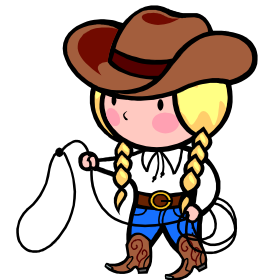
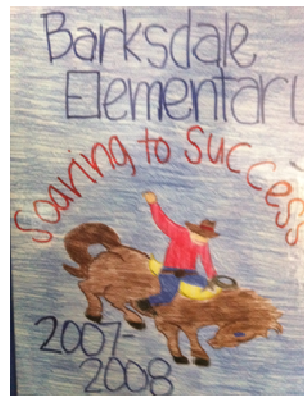
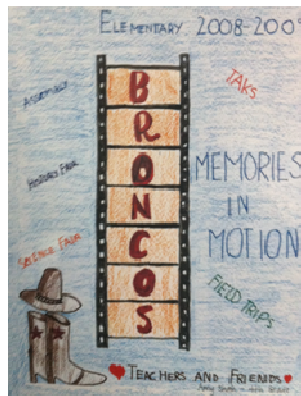
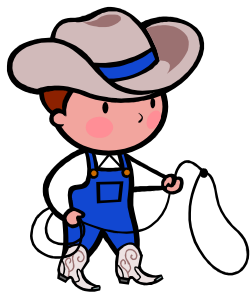
This year's theme is "Bronco Spirit"

**The contest is open to all students K -5**

**\*\*\*DUE BY OCTOBER 8, 2010\*\*\***

1. The artwork must be on a VERTICAL 8 ½ x 11 piece of paper.
2. Student may use markers, crayons, paints or paper (collage or mosaic).
3. Somewhere on the page your artwork must contain the following:  
Barksdale Elementary, 2010-2011, and the student's name if desired
4. The artwork should represent broncos, cowboys/girls, horses or overall school spirit.
5. The student's name, grade and homeroom class teacher must be marked on the back of the page in pencil and will be concealed during judging.
6. Students should turn their entries in to their teachers or place in marked box in the office
7. A committee of teachers, PTA members, and school staff will pick the winning entries.

**All entries that fit the criteria will be displayed in the yearbook. Don't miss out to see your work displayed this year! Contact Denise Stavelly at [yearbook@barksdalepta.org](mailto:yearbook@barksdalepta.org) with any questions.**



Don't miss out on keeping memories from our 2010-2011 school year! Yearbook orders will be taken until **October 1, 2010**. To order your yearbook, send a check payable to the Barksdale PTA along with the form below. You or your student may drop it into any of the PTA lock boxes located at the entrance of the main office or in the hallways. You'll receive an e-mail confirming your order was received. Contact Denise Stavelly with any questions at [yearbook@barksdalepta.org](mailto:yearbook@barksdalepta.org).

### Yearbook Order Form

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity Ordering (\$25.00 each): \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

## BE A BARKSDALE HERO!



### Pack a Bag of Food for a Local Food Pantry

Broncos—Help the PTA assist families in Collin County that are in need of food by packing a bag of non-perishable items. Bring a bag (or even a can) to the collection box by the office and receive an “I am a Barksdale Hero” sticker.

### JOIN THE BARKSDALE HERO TEAM!



### Heroes for Children 5k/1k Run or Walk Saturday, September 25, 2010 at the Shops of Legacy in Plano

September is Childhood Cancer Month so Broncos—“Be a Barksdale Hero!”

Join other Bronco families and teachers for a morning of exercise, food, music, and FUN—all to benefit Heroes for Children. Heroes for Children is a local charity that provides support to families that have children battling cancer.

To join or for more information go to

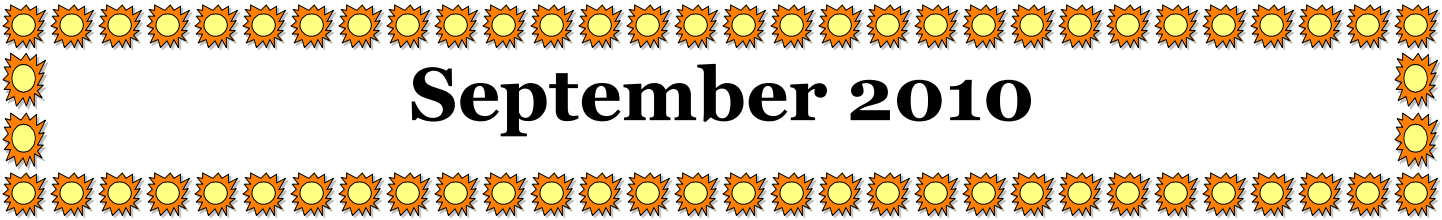
<http://www.active.com/donate/hfc5k2010/barksdalehero>

This will take you directly to the Barksdale Hero page (make sure you join as a member of this team). You do not need a password and if registering a child on line—the parent must sign the waiver and put his/her birthday in the form.

Questions? Call or e-mail:

Christy Smith 469-752-0140 [christy.smith@psd.edu](mailto:christy.smith@psd.edu)

Ashley McClain 214-693-4756 [ashmcclain@tx.rr.com](mailto:ashmcclain@tx.rr.com)



# September 2010

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>23</b> First Day of School PTA General Meeting/ Welcome Back Coffee 7:45 AM-cafeteria	<b>24</b> Parent Info Night KG, 1st and 2nd 6-7:15 PM	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Parent Info Night 3rd, 4th, & 5th 6-7:15 PM	<b>27</b> Spirit Day
<b>30</b> Howdy Week  (Spirit Night @ Yogurtville)	<b>1</b> Howdy Week	<b>2</b> Howdy Week	<b>3</b> Howdy Week	<b>4</b> Howdy Week
<b>6</b> <b>Labor Day</b> <b>No School</b>	<b>7</b>  Spirit Night @ Chick-Fil-A	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>  Student Council  5th Grade Parent Camp Meeting 6pm	<b>10</b> Spirit Day
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Newcomer Luncheon Volunteer Orientation 11:30-1:00pm  Spanish	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Spirit Day
<b>20</b>  PTA Board Retreat 11-1pm Library	<b>21</b>  Spanish	<b>22</b>  <b>Early Release                      At Noon</b>	<b>23</b>  KG –2nd Book Club  Family Fall Picnic 5:30-7-30pm	<b>24</b> Spirit Day  PTA Membership Breakfast for Staff
<b>27</b>  4th gr. Field Trip	<b>28</b>  4th gr. Field Trip  Spanish	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  3rd-5th Book Club	

This newsletter is published on a monthly basis by the Barksdale PTA. All correspondence, submissions and suggestions should be directed to the Editor at [communications@barksdalepta.org](mailto:communications@barksdalepta.org). All Barksdale families are eligible to receive copies of the newsletter. The electronic editions for the 2010-2011 school year are available online at [www.barksdalepta.org](http://www.barksdalepta.org).