



Ella J. Baker Montessori

The Paw Print

2100 Yupon St. Houston, TX 77006
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Website: <https://www.houstonisd.org/baker>
Office Hours: 8:00 am-4:30 pm

Message from the Principal

Dear Baker Families,

To fulfill our mission of being a truly exceptional school, we as a community must work together. A strong bond between the home and school is essential for student success. When issues arise, your child's classroom teacher is your first partner in discussing and finding a solution. However, I reserve time each week for parent meetings. These can be to share concerns, highlight success or discuss how we can better support your child. To schedule a meeting, contact the school secretary and she will reserve a date and time for your family to meet with me virtually or in person.

I truly believe that by working together, we will achieve our common goals and help your child reach his/her fullest potential so that he/she is able to fulfill his/her cosmic task.

Sincerely,

Shameika Sykes-Salvador

"Hi" Tea with the Principal

Our first "Hi" Tea with the Principal" event will be on **Friday, September 3rd at 9:00 a.m.**

Parents and community members are invited to come to our cafeteria to **SIP AND SEE: SIP** on coffee or tea, enjoy a snack and **SEE** what the latest news and updates at Baker are.

"Hi" Tea with the Principal" is also a time for parents to hear about the instructional program, gain strategies to assist their children, ask questions and/or share concerns that will positively impact student academic achievement. Each session is specifically designed for parents to hear directly from the principal. This Friday you will also meet our new Wrap Around Specialist and hear about her role here at Baker as well.

It's also a great time to meet other parents and share in celebrating the school's progress. All parents and community members are welcome!



Dates to Remember

- **August 31**—*Maria Montessori's Birthday*
- **September 2**—*Open House @5:30-7pm (virtual on Teams)*
- **September 3**—*Fabulous First Friday Free Dress*
- **September 3**—"Hi" Tea with the Principal @ 9am in cafeteria
- **September 6**—*Labor Day (No School)*
- **September 7**—*Back to School Forms Due*
- **September 7**—*Supply Fee Due*
- **September 8**—*Grandparents' Day Breakfast @ 9am Baker Wonderground*
- **September 16**-*Fall Holiday*

Baker's Virtual Open House



Join us for Baker's Virtual Open House on **Thursday, September 2nd**. This is a virtual event held in Teams. Open House will begin with a [General Session](#) for all parents at **5:30**. In the general session, you will hear from Principal Salvador and from PTO Board Members regarding important updates for the year. At **6:00-7:00 p.m.** you will attend a session held by your classroom teacher in Teams. We look forward to "seeing" you there! Find the link to your child's classroom teacher on our school webpage [HERE](#) or check messages from your teacher or on ClassTag!

Back to School Reminders!

Thank you for a great first week of school! We appreciate you and your efforts to have your child be here on time and ready for school. We wanted to remind you of a few Baker Montessori School policies and give you some new information as well.

The school doors do not open until 8:00 AM. No supervision is provided before this time. Please do not drop off your child until 8:00 AM.

Our school hours are 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM each day. The tardy bell rings at 8:30 AM, so be on time!

Although students are not tardy until 8:30, we encourage all students to be at school by 8:20; ready for breakfast and ready for learning since our uninterrupted work cycle begins promptly at 8:30 a.m. Every minute of instruction counts!

Be sure to follow all safety rules and traffic laws for morning drop off and afternoon pick up. Practice grace and courtesy and only park in designated areas.

The front doors lock at 3:30 PM each day in order for our staff to prepare for and participate in dismissal. The door is locked for the safety of the students, so please respect this safety measure.

Please return all completed forms in your first day packet by **Tuesday, September 7th**.

If parents drop off lunches, we do not call and interrupt classes to ensure delivery. Instead, lunches will be put on a cart in the main hallway and students are responsible for picking up their own lunch.

As always, if you have a question, please do not hesitate to call us at 713-942-1470.

GRANDPARENTS' DAY

On the first Sunday after Labor Day, we celebrate National Grandparents' Day. Like Mother's Day and Father's Day we also have a whole day dedicated to our grandparents. Grandparents and children have a special connection that is proven to make children more emotionally resilient. Grandparents Day is an opportunity to treasure that connection and spend some quality family time together.

Baker will celebrate Grandparents Day on Wednesday, September 8th. Our Grandparents' Day Breakfast will begin at @ 9am on the Baker Wonderground. Due to COVID, the children will not be able to join us this year, but we would still like to meet and greet our grandparents and show our appreciation for you. We hope you will join us!



WILSON GARDEN WORKS DAY



Calling all Baker families!! We need your help! Come out this **Saturday, September 4th from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.** to help beautify our school grounds by cleaning up the gardens and the front of the school. Drinks and snacks will be provided. Bring gardening tools like wheelbarrows, shovels, spades and gloves if you have them. We look forward to seeing everyone on Saturday!

TAGT Family Event

We wanted to share with you an exciting virtual event taking place on **September 14, 2021**. Please see below for more information and click [here](#) to



TEXAS ASSOCIATION FOR THE
GIFTED & TALENTED

FREE PARENT WEBINAR

SPARKING CURIOSITY AND DELIGHT

With Amber O'Neal Johnston
Tuesday, September 14,
6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. (CST)



When children show strong abilities in one academic area or another, the adults in their lives often encourage them to pursue hobbies and careers that play off those strengths. That may certainly be an advantage, but sometimes the strategy can leave children feeling incomplete. In this session, we'll explore a path that supports academic growth while sparking curiosity in childhood. Learn how to come alongside your kids as they dive deeply into the passions and interests that make them come alive!

Notes from the School Nurse

- Please do not send medication to school with your child. If your child is in need of medication during the school day, a medication order form will be provided to the parent which will need to be completed by the child's physician.
- The completed form and labeled prescription must be brought to the clinic by the parent.
- Please remember that the only medications which will be given at school are those that are meant to manage a chronic condition such as asthma, ADHD, etc.
- Over the counter medications will not be given at any time per HISD guidelines.
- Likewise, antibiotics cannot be given, so please make arrangements to give the medicine before and/or after school.
- Children are NOT to have any medications in their possession at school.



COVID Specific Notes

- Masks are required in all HISD schools, buildings, and buses.
- Students are strongly encouraged to routinely wash or sanitize their hands throughout the day, prior to eating, and after each visit to the restroom. Students are also encouraged to practice proper respiratory etiquette by covering coughs and sneezes with the inside of their elbow, a tissue, or mask.
- Students, staff, and visitors are asked to monitor their health and stay home when sick.
- If a student becomes infected with COVID-19, they must notify our campus, stay home and quarantine for 10 days from the onset of symptoms, and attend temporary online learning established by the district. Students will not be counted absent as long as they attend four hours of temporary online learning each day.
- If a presumed or confirmed COVID-19 case is detected in a classroom, impacted students will be identified through the contact tracing process. Parents/caregivers of impacted students will be notified and provided with next steps related to quarantine and any other measures that should be taken. If quarantine is required, the student must stay home and participate in temporary online learning.

Baker PTO invites you to be a Parent Teacher Volunteer this year! There are many ways for parents to be involved in their child's education:



Classroom Volunteer - to help with class activities

School Volunteer - to help with lunch coverage, read to students, assist with school wide projects, and more!

Or.....participate in a PTO Committee, or donate time for Fall Festival, Gala or other PTO activities!!

Big or small - your help is needed & appreciated!

To volunteer in ANY WAY, make sure you are **VIPS certified**. After registering online [HERE](#) and undergoing the annual background check, volunteers can work in any HISD school for the school year.

School Supply Fees: **DUE Sept. 7th**



The Baker per-student school supply fee is collected by the Baker PTO to cover the direct costs of classroom supplies and materials unique to the Montessori classroom. Buying in bulk also allows for considerable cost savings on yearly supplies and for considerable convenience for parents who don't have to worry about shopping for school supplies this August. In a 2019 survey, the National Retail Federation estimated that, on average, households will spend over \$117 per student on standard classroom supplies. We hope that having a reasonable, one-time supply fee will save our families both time and money while ensuring our students have the materials needed for a successful year.

The school supply fee for early childhood through middle school is **\$50 per student for the year**. Parents may pay the supply fee here: <https://bakerpto.ptboard.com/home> (use **JMJ6NV** to register) or send fee to school with your child. If you have any issues or concerns regarding payment of the school supply fee, please contact Baker's school secretary, Rosalia Guerrero.

Fabulous First Friday Free Dress

PTO sponsors Fabulous First Friday Free Dress (FFFFD) each 1st Friday of the month beginning in September. In order to wear free dress on FFFFD, students are encouraged to drop a donation of any amount in the donations box upon entering school for that day or for ease, parents may make donations here: <https://bakerpto.ptboard.com/home>. We can't wait to see your Free Dress this **Friday, September 3rd**.

Virtue of the Week

The virtue of the week is INCLUSION. Inclusion is being a part of what everyone else is, being welcomed and embraced as a member who belongs. Guiding your child to be an inclusive and compassionate individual can be a hard task for a parent. Discover four strategies from Bright Horizons experts on how to teach your child to be inclusive **HERE!**



THE NEXT GENERATION OF BOX TOPS IS HERE!

Box Tops is changing to fit today's families! The new and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to your school's earnings online. No more clipping or sending Box Tops to school!



Target REDcard: Did you know that Baker Montessori gets a check every year from Target? Parents and community members who link their REDcard account to Baker, School ID # 98808, allow Target to donate 1% of each linked card sale directly to Baker!

If you have a REDcard, please link to Baker Montessori School!



Remember, when you're ordering from **Amazon.com**, start from the special link at www.wilsonpto.org/fundraising, and the Baker PTO will receive a donation equal to 4% to 6% of your total.