



BALMVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS LETTER

September 2026

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE



Dear Balmville Scholars,

Welcome back to school! We hope you had a fun summer filled with rest, adventure, and special time with your family and friends. We are so excited to see you and to start an amazing new school year together at Balmville! At Balmville, we believe that school is a place where everyone belongs. That means every student, every family, every teacher, and every staff member works together to make sure our school is safe, welcoming, and fun for all. We care about who you are, where you come from, and what you have to say. **You are important and your voice matters!** Just remember: **we are here to help you.** You are never alone, and we will do everything we can to support you every single day.

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We're happy to share one of the exciting things happening this year: **Grades 4 and 5 will be departmentalized!** That means instead of having just one teacher for all your subjects, you'll rotate between teachers who specialize in different subjects—just like in middle school! This gives you a chance to learn from teachers who are experts in what they teach and to get ready for the next step in your education.

Here are a few things to help us all have a great first week:

- There will be a **Family Handbook** online with helpful information for your grown-ups to read.
- Your families will get messages and photos on **Class Dojo** and through **School Messenger** so they'll always know what's going on in school.
- Please remind your family to check that their contact information (like phone number and email) is correct in the **Parent Portal** so we can reach them if needed.

We are so happy to be your school family, and we can't wait to learn, grow, and have fun with you this year! At Balmville we believe **Nada Más Que Hacerlo! There's Nothing to it, But to Do it!**

With Excitement,

Dr. Karriem Bunce

Dr. Karriem Bunce
Proud Principal

Amanda Greene

Amanda Greene
Proud Assistant Principal



GOLDIEBACK GLOWS



BALMVILLE BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

OCT. 8TH, 2026

5:30PM-7:00PM

PLEASE REGISTER HERE:



PREK - 5 CHARACTER TRAIT ASSEMBLIES

OCTOBER 2ND

PRE-K-2ND GRADE: 10:00 AM

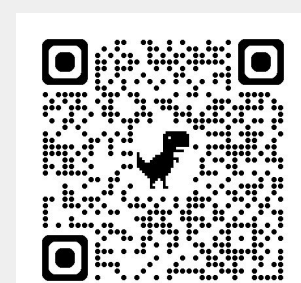
3RD -5TH GRADES: 10:45 AM

Students will be recognized for the September character trait during multiple grade level assemblies



Family Transportation Form

Please fill out to inform us if your child will **ride the bus** or be a **Pick up/Drop off each day.**





💛💙 GOLDBACKS ARE FOREVER BECOMING!

This year, our Balmville Goldbacks will take a special journey through our **GOLDBACK Character Traits**! Each month, we will come together as a school community to celebrate one character trait that helps our students grow not only as learners, but as kind, courageous, confident, and contributing members of our community.

Our GOLDBACK journey will be:

- G** — Growth Mindset | **September**
- O** — Originality | **October**
- L** — Leadership | **November**
- D** — Determination (Perseverance) | **December**
- B** — Belonging (Being Inclusive) | **January**
- A** — Achievement | **February**
- C** — Courage | **March**
- K** — Kindness | **April**

🌟 September Character Trait: **G — Growth Mindset**

What is a Growth Mindset?

A **growth mindset** is the belief that our abilities and intelligence can develop through **effort, practice, perseverance, learning from mistakes, and asking for help.**

At Balmville, we want our students to understand that “**I can’t do it YET**” is very different from “**I can’t do it.**” Mistakes are not failures—they are opportunities to learn, grow, and try again!

How Can Families Build a Growth Mindset at Home?

Families can help children develop a growth mindset by:

- 💬 **Praise the process, not just the outcome:** “I am proud of how hard you worked!”
- 🌱 **Celebrate mistakes:** Ask, “What did you learn from that?”
- 👊 **Encourage persistence:** “Let’s try another strategy.”
- 🧠 **Use the power of YET:** “You don’t know how to do it yet.”
- ❓ **Ask reflective questions:** “What could you try differently next time?”
- 🎯 **Set small goals:** Help your child identify something they want to improve and celebrate their progress.
- ❤️ **Model growth yourself:** Let your child see you learning, making mistakes, trying again, and saying, “I’m still learning.”

At Balmville, **Forever Becoming** means we never stop growing. We want every Goldback to know that their potential is not fixed—and that effort, courage, curiosity, and perseverance can help them become more than they imagined.

Goldbacks, let’s grow together! 🌱💛💙

Nothing to it but to DO it! — Nada Más Que Hacerlo!

PTA PEEK-A-VIEW

💛💙 GOLDBACKS GROW TOGETHER—JOIN OUR PTA!

There is nothing more powerful than a school community that comes together for its children!

As we begin another exciting year at Balmville, I invite **every Goldback family** to become a part of our PTA. Your voice, your ideas, your talents, and your time matter. You do not have to do it all—**every contribution makes a difference!**

When families get involved, we:

- ✦ Strengthen student learning and achievement
- ✦ Build meaningful relationships between home and school
- ✦ Create memorable experiences and traditions for our children
- ✦ Give families a voice in shaping our school community
- ✦ Build school pride, belonging, and connection
- ✦ Show our children that their education matters to all of us

At Balmville, we believe we are **Forever Becoming**—growing, learning, evolving, and becoming the very best version of ourselves. That journey is stronger when **we do it together.**

Goldbacks, this is **OUR** school. This is **OUR** community. And **OUR** children are counting on us!

💛 Join the PTA. Find your place. Share your voice. Make a difference.

Nothing more to say—Nada Más Que Hacerlo!
Nothing to it but to DO it!

Forever Becoming. Forever Goldbacks. 🌱

Balmville Believes in Me T-Shirts



The PTA is selling **Balmville Believes In Me** t-shirts! Shirts are available in the following sizes:

- Kids XS
- Kids Small
- Kids Medium
- Kids Large
- Kids XL
- Adult Small
- Adult Medium
- Adult Large
- Adult XL
- Adult 2XL
- V neck M

*Contact the main office for prices

