MARY E. BRITTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

THE Bear Claw

Friday
November 14, 2025



ALL WEEK!

FROM THE BEAR'S DEN

🧡 Family Support Resources

At Mary E. Britton Middle School, we are committed to supporting the well-being of our students and their families. We recognize that some members of our community may be facing challenges such as food insecurity or the need for winter clothing. To ensure we can connect families with the appropriate resources, we have created a confidential support form. Completing the form allows our team to identify needs and provide assistance with care and compassion.

🏫 SBDM Council Meeting – November 20

Our first School-Based Decision Making (SBDM) Council meeting will take place on November 20 at 5:00 PM in the MEB Media Center. Families are encouraged to stay informed and engaged with the work of our council throughout the year.

All agendas, meeting minutes, bylaws, and policies will be available on our SBDM webpage:
👉 https://britton.fcps.net/about-us/sbdm-council

We look forward to partnering with you this school year!

🎁🎉 Celebrate the Holidays with School Spirit! 🎉🎁

We're excited to announce that the official online apparel stores for Mary E. Britton Middle School are now LIVE — just in time for holiday shopping! Whether you're looking for gifts, warm winter gear, or something special to show off your Britton pride, we've got three great options for you:

✨ Store 1 – BSN SPORTS Official Team Shop
Looking for athletic-style apparel and accessories? The BSN store has you covered with performance gear, spirit wear, and fan favorites in our official MEB colors. Perfect for students, staff, and families wanting high-quality Britton gear this season!

✨ Store 2 – K3 Kreations
K3 Kreations offers custom-monogrammed and specialty items, including cozy hoodies, tees, and personalized pieces that make excellent gifts. If you're looking for something unique and gift-ready, this is your shop!

✨ Store 3 – Varsity Print Winter Apparel Store
❄️ WINTER IS COMING! ❄️
Stay warm and stylish with our winter-themed Britton gear from Varsity Print — including sweatshirts, hoodies, joggers, and more in your favorite Britton designs.
📅 Store closes Monday, November 24

THIS WEEK

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2025

- Dance practice at 7:15 AM
- Get Fit Club at 4:15 PM
- Volleyball hosts Bryan Station at 5:00 PM
- Cheer practice at 6:00 PM

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2025

- Dance practice at 7:15 AM
- Cheer practice at 4:15 PM
- Get Fit Club at 4:15 PM
- Volleyball practice at 4:15 PM
- Super Cool Variety Cool at 4:15 PM
- All Things Britton from 5:30–7:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2025

- Dance practice at 7:00 AM
- Tutoring in the media center at 4:15 PM.
  - Tutoring sign up link
- CRASH in 7th grade flex room at 4:15 PM
- BEARitones jazz band at 4:15 PM
- Super Cool Variety Club at 4:15 PM
- Volleyball travels to Tates Creek at 4:15 PM

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2025

- Dance practice at 7:00 AM
- FCA meeting in the gym at 8:00 AM
- Get Fit Club at 4:15 PM
- Volleyball practice at 4:15 PM
- Dungeons and Dragons club in E101 at 4:15 PM
- HOSA in C11 at 4:15 PM
- SBDM meeting at 5:00 PMN

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2025

- BEARS young men's mentoring group in A132 at 8:00 AM
- Volleyball practice at 4:15 PM
- Battle of the Books club in the media center at 4:15 PM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2025

- Cheer practice at Lex Athletics at 9:00 AM

LOOKING AHEAD...

- November 24: Academic team hosts Christ the King
- November 24: Volleyball hosts Morton
- November 26–28: Thanksgiving break
- December 1: Academic team vs. Jessie Clark
- December 1: Volleyball vs. EJ Hayes
- December 2: MAP Math winter testing
- December 2: Volleyball hosts Jessie M. Clark
- December 4: Volleyball travels to Leestown
- December 4: MAP Reading winter testing
- December 9: Volleyball district tournament begins
- December 12: Winter dance
- December 18: District volleyball finals

THE BEAR NECESSITIES FOR SUCCESS

- Be Curious
- Be Kind
- Be Bold
- Be Responsible

VISION: BRITTON AND BEYOND

- Expose Students to Career Pathways in Health and Medical Sciences
- Ensure Equitable Access to Courses So Every Student Earns at Least One High School Credit.
- Provide Opportunities for Civic Engagement.
- Foster School Pride and a Sense of Belonging.

The mission of Mary E. Britton Middle School is to foster a safe and supportive environment where every student is valued and inspired to reach their fullest potential. Through academic rigor, civic engagement, and strong relationships, we cultivate leaders prepared to thrive today and build a better tomorrow.

Explore STEAM Academy — Applications Now Open for 2026-27

Attention 8th grade students and families! STEAM Academy is one of several outstanding high school programs available through Fayette County Public Schools. The application window for the 2026–27 school year is now open and will close on Friday, January 30, 2026.

Students and families are encouraged to explore the program by signing up for a campus tour or a Half-Day Shadow Experience, where you'll have the opportunity to see classes in action and meet current STEAM student ambassadors. These ambassadors will share their experiences and answer your questions from a student perspective. STEAM staff and administrators will also host a Q&A session to help you learn more about what makes the academy unique.

To learn more or get started:

- Visit the STEAM Academy Website – Click "Apply Now" to begin your application.
- Sign Up for a Tour – Explore the STEAM campus with current students.
- Apply for a Half-Day Shadow Day – Experience a day as a STEAM student.

We look forward to welcoming many future members of the Class of 2030 to STEAM Academy!

Locust Trace AgriScience Center Applications Open November 3

The application window for Locust Trace AgriScience Center (LTAC) opens Monday, November 3, 2025, and closes Friday, January 30, 2026 at bit.ly/fcpscteapp. Notifications will be sent by Tuesday, February 17, 2026—following the same timeline as FCPS special and magnet programs.

Students in grades 9–10 may apply to join one of LTAC's agriculture-based programs. Limited 11th-grade openings are available in select institutes, and current LTAC students will simply confirm their return during scheduling—no reapplication needed.

Learn more, view videos, and even book a tour by visiting locusttrace.fcps.net.
Questions? Contact Ms. Jenni Berk (Counselor) or Dr. Catherine Vannatter (Principal) for assistance or marketing materials.

INFO

TIMES

- Doors open daily at 8:35 AM
- First period begins at 9:05 AM
- Dismissal is at 3:55 PM
- Walkers and car riders should be picked up by 4:15 PM

LINKS

- Absence form
- eOS
- Campus Parent
- Canvas
- Student and Family Handbook
- Voluntary Student Accident Insurance
- Consent for Outside Traceable Communication
- Tutoring sign ups

SOCIAL MEDIA

- Facebook
- Instagram
- YouTube
- PhotoSnap (Upload pics for the yearbook)
  - Access code: BEARS26

CURRENT ENROLLMENT

- 6th grade: 246 (-1)
- 7th grade: 176 (+1)
- 8th grade: 136 (--)
- **Total: 558 (--)**



BEAR HUGS

- Shout out to Mr. Shane Mitchell, our band director, for organizing our first Britton Veteran's Day celebration.
- Thank you to all of the veterans who attended our inaugural event as well.
- Congratulations to our sixth and seventh grade volleyball teams. Both defeated Southern on November 11 and LEX on November 13!
- Congratulations to the 8th grade students in Ms. Stewart's family and consumer science class who earned their ServSafe food handlers certification!

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

GOAL IS 95%

- Monday, November 10… 90.16%
- Tuesday, November 11… 92.23%
- Wednesday, November 12… 93.82%
- Thursday, November 13… 93.46%
- Friday, November 14… 90.95%

STAFF ATTENDANCE

GOAL IS 95%

- Monday, November 10… 91.11%
- Tuesday, November 11… 92.22%
- Wednesday, November 12… 97.78%
- Thursday, November 13… 97.78%
- Friday, November 14… 88.89%

WEEKLY DISCIPLINE

SIXTH GRADE

- Number of referrals… 3
- Number in detention… 8
- RESET days… 0
- Suspension days… 7.74

SEVENTH GRADE

- Number of referrals… 0
- Number in detention… 5
- RESET days… 0
- Suspension days… 0

EIGHTH GRADE

- Number of referrals… 9
- Number in detention… 4
- RESET days… 2
- Suspension days… 0



BEAR SNAPS









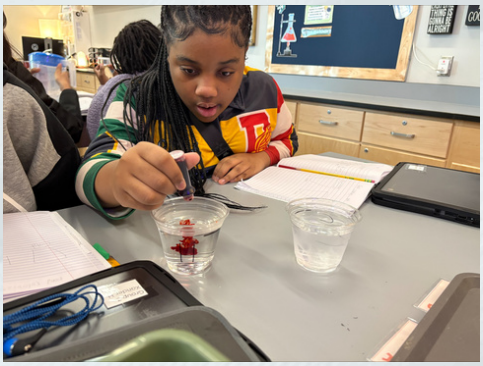
Above and right: Our first flag football tournament champions! **Below:** Ms. Bingham using flexible seating in her reading courses, to meet the needs of her students.







BEAR SNAPS





Students in Mr. Smith's class completed an experiment to learn how particles move in different temperatures







Volleyball swept Winburn in all three games in our first home volleyball game.







BEAR SNAPS

Highlights from our first Veteran's Day Celebration.

















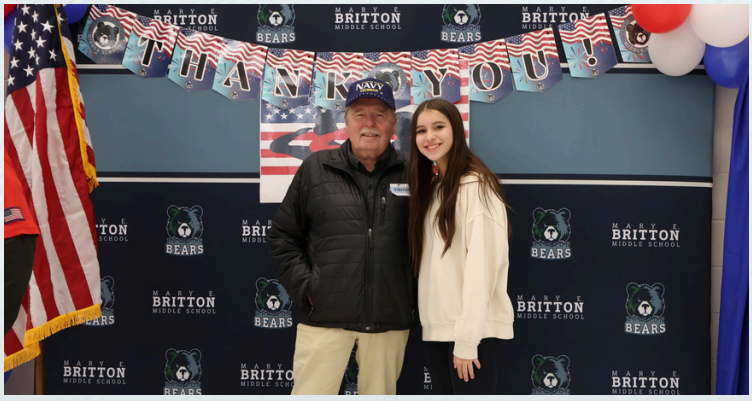


BEAR SNAPS


THANK YOU!
BRITTON
BEARS


THANK YOU!
BRITTON
BEARS


THANK YOU!
BRITTON
BEARS


THANK YOU!
NAVY
BRITTON
BEARS


THANK YOU!
BRITTON
BEARS

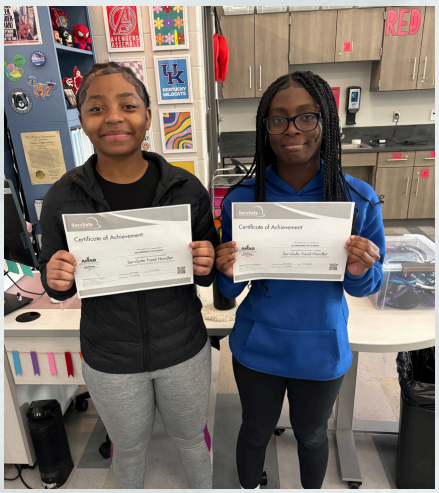

THANK YOU!
BRITTON
BEARS


THANK YOU!
BRITTON
BEARS


THANK YOU!
BRITTON
BEARS

BEAR SNAPS

Congratulations to students in Ms. Stewart's family consumer science class for earning their ServSafe food handler's license. These students are on their way to earning a high school credit for this course!







Several 8th grade students toured the Locust Trace Agriscience Center on November 14.















BEAR SNAPS



























BEAR SNAPS















EVERY TEEN DESERVES TO HAVE A CHRISTMAS!

DO YOU HAVE OR KNOW OF A TEEN AT RISK OF NOT HAVING GIFTS THIS CHRISTMAS?

The BE AN ELF Gift A Teen project wants to help!



SCAN THE QR TO REGISTER YOUR DESERVING TEEN FOR SELECTION. SPOTS ARE LIMITED!

PARTNERS FOR YOUTH

QUESTIONS ? CALL (859) 280-8006

Con

Volunteers
Needed

Major

SCHOLASTIC

BOOK FAIR

announcement

THE BEST. DAY. EVER.

IS COMING!

November 17th - November 21st

yolanda.brackjones@fayette.kyschools.us



TEEN NIGHT OUT

This November, join us at the Y for Teen Night Out - packed with friends and fun!
Enjoy pizza, games, and the usual hangout vibes, PLUS a chance to win prizes and be the first to dive into an immersive experience and try our brand-new VR headsets!
It's FREE to register and open to both members and non-members! Registration closes Nov. 20.

EVENT IS FREE!
Registration required at ymcacky.org

AGES: 13-18
LOCATION: WHITAKER FAMILY YMCA
DATE: Saturday, Nov. 22
TIME: 6:30-9 p.m.

MADE POSSIBLE BY

kinetic
Internet better.

Mary E Britton
Book Club

COME & JOIN US

Battle of the Books

November 21, 2025

4 PM – 5 PM

MEB Media Center

Complete the Interest Form:
https://go.fcps.net/BOBClub

We need some things. Want to help? Amazon Wishlist:
https://go.fcps.net/BrittonLibraryWishList

MONTHLY

Reading Challenge

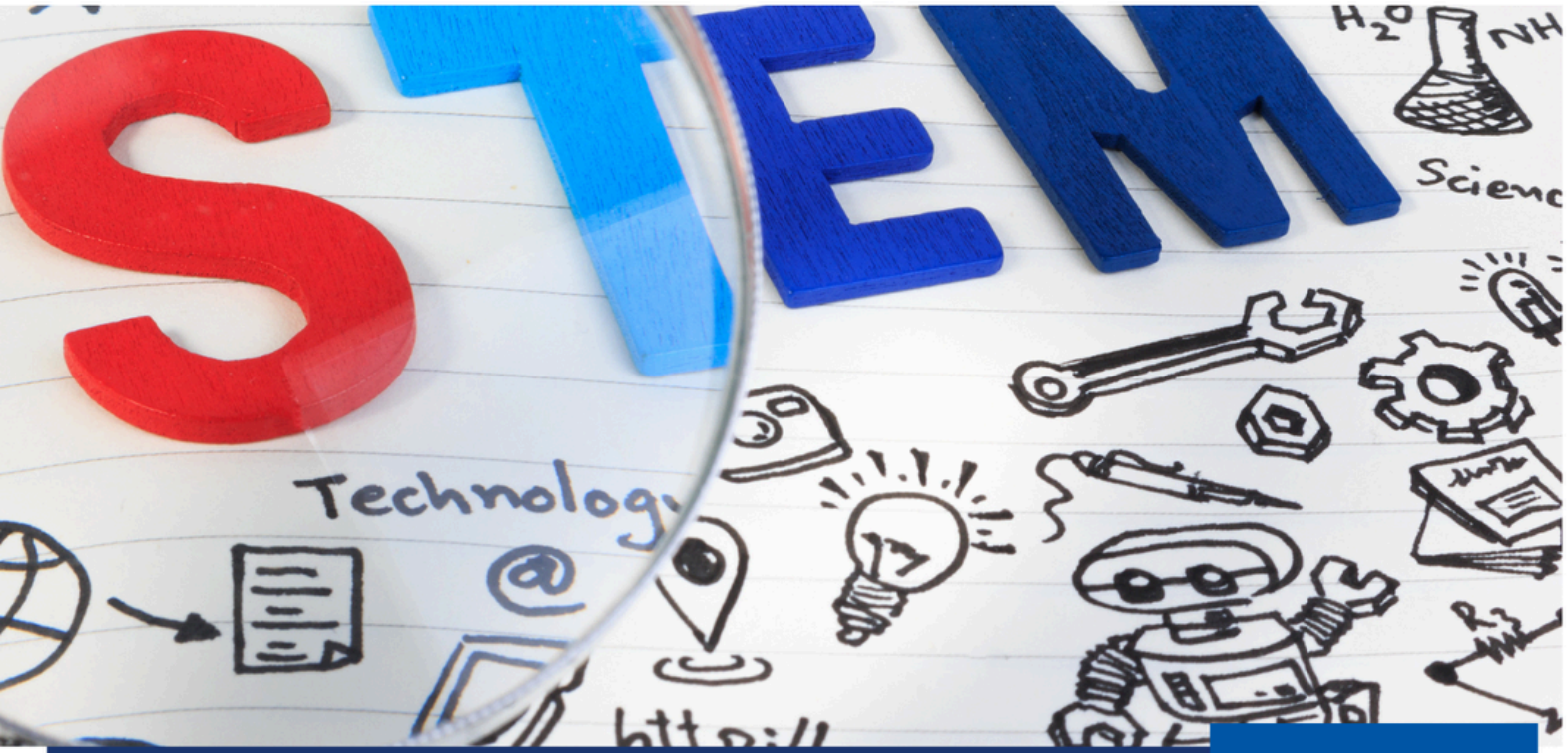




Pick up a 'Books and Thanks' read to participate:

- a PICTURE BOOK: Re-read a classic, or find a new favorite!
- a NONFICTION title: Learn Something new!
- Choose a book you love or that's meaningful to you!

Use the Reading Challenge Google Form on the LMC website to submit your entry and earn your monthly prize!



Expo de Ciencias y Tecnologia

Centro de Conexión Familiar : 1625 Russell Cave Rd

Descubre las diferentes programas educativos y profesionales en Ciencia y Tecnologia para sus hijos.

Cena gratis

Por favor, confirma tu asistencia para asegurar tu lugar : https://forms.gle/Gfs3br1wLX8qaBaR7

Jueves 20 de noviembre

5:30-7:00 p.m.

Centro de Conexión Familiar del Norte
1625 Russell Cave Rd
Lexington, Kentucky 40511

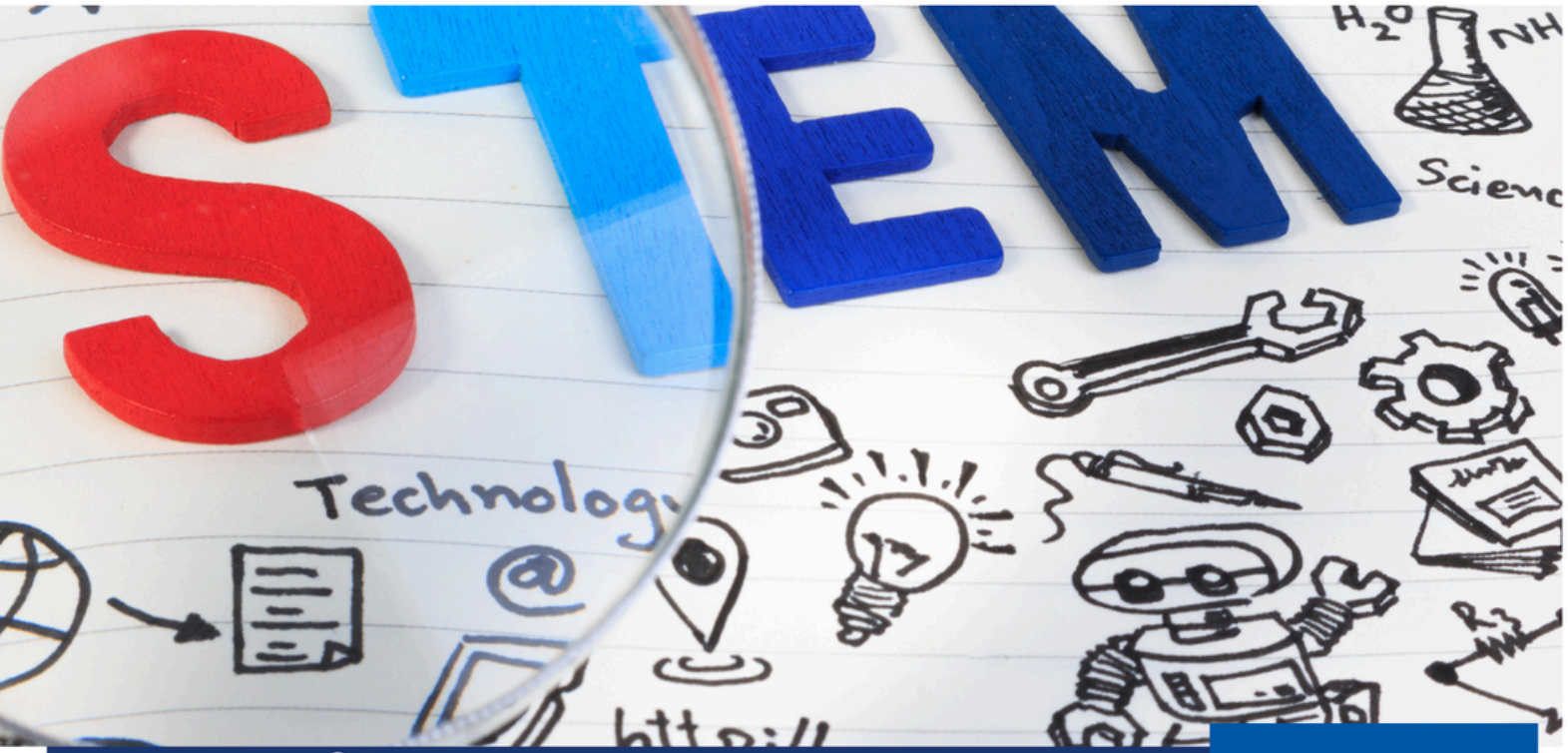
¿Tienes alguna pregunta?

thomas.wilson@fayette.kyschools.us

Driving Possibilities

Fayette County Public Schools

The Prichard Committee
Building a Groundswell for a Big Bold Future



Family STEM EXPO

Family Connection Center 1625 Russell Cave

Explore exciting education and career pathways in STEM

Dinner provided

Please RSVP to reserve your spot
https://forms.gle/Gfs3br1wLX8qaBaR7

Thursday , November 20
5:30-7:00 p.m.

Family Connection Center North
1625 Russell Cave
Lexington, KY 40511

Got questions?
thomas.wilson@fayette.kyschools.us

Driving Possibilities

Fayette County Public Schools

The Prichard Committee
Building a Groundswell for a Big Bold Future

LIHEAP

FALL SUBSIDY

November 3 – December 12, 2025

A program to help offset the cost of home heating across various fuel types, including electric, natural gas, propane, coal, wood, and fuel oil.



Component Details

- One Time Heating Benefit.
- Paid Directly to Energy Vendor.
- Kentucky households with income at or below 150 percent FPG.

In Fayette, Bourbon, Harrison, & Nicholas

- Contact Community Action Council
- www.commaction.org/LIHEAP
- Call (859) 300-6960

Community Action COUNCIL

Scan QR Code to Learn More:

For more details: (859) 300-6960 commaction.org/LIHEAP

Approved 10/1/2025

Funding provided by Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services through block grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

foodchain



FoodChain's Hot Meal Handout
Monday, Wednesday
Friday- grocery boxes
4:00pm-6:00pm

Distribución de comida gratis
lunes, miércoles
Los viernes- cajas de alimentos
4:00pm-6:00pm

foodchain

FOLLOW, LIKE, SHARE
@FOODCHAINLEX

501 W. Sixth St, Ste 105 | Lex, KY 40508

RENT/UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

--Families should call the **United Way 211** help line for the most up-to-date assistance information.

--**Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church Community Assistance Fund**: Our office hours are: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10:00am-3:00pm

The Office is OPEN for walk-ins at 180 East Maxwell Street and phone calls at 859-233-0723 during those hours. Please do NOT leave voicemail; please keep calling if you cannot come into the office.

--**Centenary Church Love Fund**: On the first Monday of each month, Love Fund day, anyone can call the church office starting at 10 am (859-269-2800) and make a self-referral. Payments are made directly to landlord or utility company.

--**Catholic Charities of Lexington–Bridging the Gap Program**

- Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Assistance: Appointment Required
  - Intake appointments are done each week on Monday's and Tuesday's
  - Most clients will be required to attend their appointment in person at our office. However, phone or Zoom appointments are offered for those who live outside of Fayette County and for individuals with medical conditions which limit their mobility.
  - A current, non-expired, government-issued photo ID (driver's license, ID card, or passport)
  - Name, date of birth, and social security numbers of all household members
  - Proof of income or government assistance from the past 30 days (paystubs, award letter, etc.)
  - A current copy if the utility bill(s) that you are needing assistance with
  - Please contact us at 859-253-3339 to schedule an appointment.

FAMILY PLAY AND ACTIVITY SESSION

The Kentucky Center for Grieving Children and Families

During Grieving Children and Families Month for Kentucky, the Kentucky Center for Grieving Children and Families is delighted to partner with the Lexington Children's Museum to offer a free family play and activity session for children who have experienced loss.

WHAT'S INCLUDED:

FREE ENTRY!

- Pizza lunch is provided
- Make a memory placemat
- Free resources for supporting children and families after losses

lexington children's museum

JOIN US FROM 11:00AM- 1:00PM ON SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 16, 2025

LEXINGTON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM, 440 WEST SHORT STREET

FREE PARKING AT METERED SPACES ON SHORT ST. AND ALGONQUIN ST.; PAID GARAGE PARKING AT THE VICTORIAN SQUARE GARAGE AT 350 W SHORT STREET

www.kcgcf.org | (859) 813-2759

Children's Grief AWARENESS DAY

EDUCATE. EQUIP. HONOR.

Children's Grief Awareness Day is designed to bring attention to the importance of understanding the impact of death on children and their need for support. Please join us in collaborating with The Kentucky Center for Grieving Children and Families and LexArts for an evening of special activities.

We will host "A Seat at the Table" where we will use art to support children and families navigating loss. Families will craft personalized placemats that reflect the stories and legacies of their loved ones, share a remembrance meal with others in the community, and take home educational materials and grief resources.

We would like to invite you to this event:

WHEN: Thursday, November 20, 2025
5:30–7:30 p.m.
- 5:30–6:15 p.m. | Drop in to create a placemat
- 6:30–7:30 p.m. | Remembrance meal

WHERE: Bluegrass Care Navigators
1733 Harrodsburg Road
Lexington, KY 40504

JOIN US IN WEARING BLUE ON **NOV. 20** TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR GRIEVING CHILDREN.

CALL 859.277.2700 TO REGISTER.

*Please register by **November 13, 2025**, so that we can have enough food and materials for everyone.*

BLUEGRASS care navigators
Expert. Connected. Care.

The Kentucky Center For Grieving Children and Families

LEXARTS

Children's Grief AWARENESS DAY

EDUCATE. EQUIP. HONOR.

El Día de Concientización sobre el Duelo de los Niños está diseñado para llamar la atención sobre la importancia de comprender el impacto que tiene la muerte en los niños y su necesidad de apoyo. Únase a nosotros para colaborar con el Centro de Kentucky para Niños y Familias en Duelo *(The Kentucky Center for Grieving Children and Families)* y LexArts en una noche de actividades especiales.

Organizaremos "Un lugar en la mesa", donde recurriremos al arte para apoyar a los niños y las familias que están atravesando la pérdida. Las familias elaborarán manteles individuales personalizados que reflejen las historias y los legados de sus seres queridos, compartirán una comida de conmemoración con otros miembros de la comunidad y se llevarán a casa materiales educativos y recursos para el duelo.

Nos gustaría invitarlo a este evento:

CUÁNDO: jueves, 20 de noviembre de 2025
5:30–7:30 p.m.
- 5:30–6:15 p.m. | Súmese para crear un mantel individual
- 6:30–7:30 p.m. | Comida de conmemoración

DÓNDE: Bluegrass Care Navigators
1733 Harrodsburg Road
Lexington, KY 40504

ÚNASE A NOSOTROS Y VÍSTASE DE AZUL EL **20 DE NOVIEMBRE** PARA MOSTRAR SU APOYO A LOS NIÑOS EN DUELO.

LLAME AL 859.277.2700 PARA REGISTRARSE

*Por favor, regístrese antes del **13 de noviembre de 2025** para que podamos tener suficientes alimentos y materiales para todos.*

BLUEGRASS care navigators
Expert. Connected. Care.

The Kentucky Center For Grieving Children and Families

LEXARTS



BEARS, YEARBOOKS ON SALE NOW!



What will you remember from this historic year? The yearbook has the complete story of the year – reserve your copy today!

COST: $35

TO PURCHASE:

Want to make your book EXTRA special? Cover Personalization/Namestamping starts at just $9.15, but hurry, it's only available until March 1!

To use a credit card, debit card or PayPal, go to **yearbookforever.com** and enter our school name or **scan the QR code**.

For cash or check, bring order form and payment made out to Mary E. Britton Middle School to Room A218.

Student name _____ Grade _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Number of yearbooks _____ x $ _____ = _____ Total cost