



Deanna Brewer
Principal

Jennifer Cervantes
Assistant Principal

Berkley Spotlight!



We are excited to announce **Berkley's 2026-2027 Teacher of the Year, Ms. Rachel Thomas**, and **Support Person of the Year, Mrs. Taylor Piatt**!

Both of these outstanding ladies work with our PreK students—Ms. Thomas with our 4-year-olds and Mrs. Piatt with our 3-year-olds. Each day, they make a difference in the lives of our youngest Knights, helping them build the skills and confidence that will prepare them for success throughout their elementary years.

And there's a special connection that makes this recognition even more meaningful: both Ms. Thomas and Mrs. Piatt were once Berkley Elementary students themselves! Their stories have truly come full circle. They are now making a lasting impact on our youngest Knights, just as the educators who taught and inspired them once made an impact on them.

We are so proud to celebrate these two amazing educators and the dedication, heart, and love they bring to Berkley every day. Congratulations, Ms. Thomas and Mrs. Piatt! We are lucky to have you as part of the Berkley family!

Fall Fest 2026



You're invited to join us for one of Berkley's favorite traditions! Fall Fest 2026 will be held **Thursday, October 29, from 4-6 p.m.** Get ready for an evening filled with fun and activities with fellow Berkley friends! There will be game booths for students, with booth costs ranging from 1-6 tickets. Fall Fest tickets will go on sale October 12 for just \$0.50 each. Send money in a sealed envelope with your student's name, teacher's name, and dollar amount clearly on the outside of the envelope. Tickets will also be available for purchase in the breezeway during Fall Fest. All proceeds go directly to the grade levels sponsoring booths. These funds help support classroom needs, field trip opportunities, and other educational experiences for our students.

Fall Fest is one of our longest-standing traditions. We hope you'll mark your calendar and join us this year!

26/27 Yearbooks & Cover Contest

Our Yearbook Cover Contest is still underway! All entries are due to Mrs. Bateman by October 2nd. See the attached flyer for more information.

Our 2026-2027 Berkley Charter School yearbooks are now on sale! You can purchase yours online by going to: buytheyearbook.com. They are \$30 but prices will go up. Shop early to get the discounted rate.



School Hours
7:50 - 3:00

Morning Drop-off
7:30am

5240 Berkley Rd
Auburndale, FL 33823

Office Hours
7:30 - 3:30

Early Dismissal
12:30

(863) 968-5024
www.berkleyknights.net



Be A Hero.

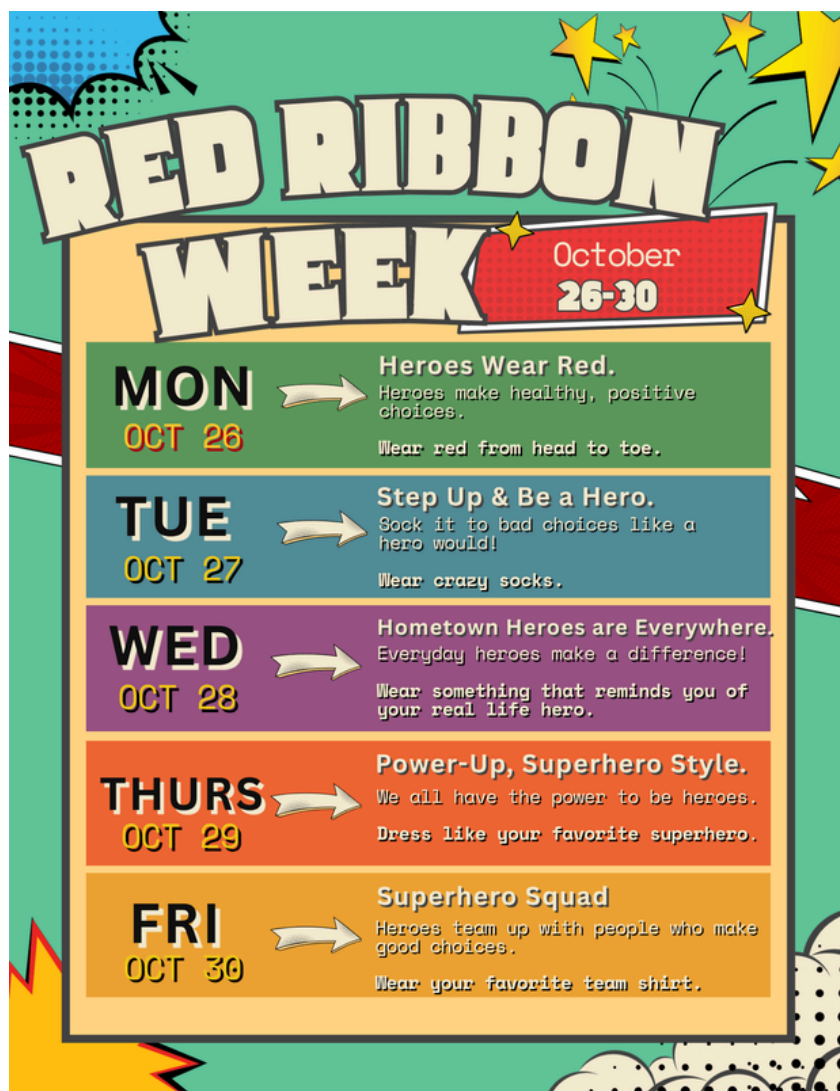


This month, Berkley is proud to celebrate Red Ribbon Week, a nationwide campaign that promotes healthy, safe, and positive choices. This year's theme is **Make a Difference. Be a Hero.**

Stay Drug Free. During the week of Oct. 26-30, students can

participate in fun spirit days designed to promote healthy habits and remind us the importance of making good choices for our future.

There's also community sponsored events, such as the Red Ribbon Run, in which students and families can participate. See the attached flyer for more information. Visit www.redribbon.org for additional activities and resources.



Picture Retakes



Picture retakes are October 22nd for students who were absent on picture day, or those who wish to retake their photo. If your child is retaking their photo, the original photo package must be returned.

Next
Board of Directors'
Meeting
Oct. 9, 2026
7am

Connect with us!



www.berkleyknights.net



www.facebook.com/berkleycharterschool



<http://focusk12.polk-fl.net>



berkleyvolunteergroup@gmail.com



<https://getfortifyfl.com/>

Parent Involvement Liaison
Mayme Plumlee



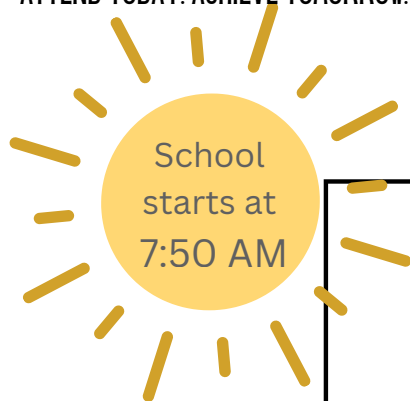
Title IX Coordinator
Jennifer Cervantes

(863) 968-5024

www.berkleyknights.net

**ATTENDANCE
MATTERS!**
ATTEND TODAY. ACHIEVE TOMORROW.

October 2026



What's Ahead:

Nov. 11 - No School

Nov. 19 - Interims

Nov. 20 - Early Release

Nov. 23 - 27

Thanksgiving Break



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1 Block Day 4	2 Freestyle Friday Block Day 5
5 Block Day 6	6 Block Day 1	7 Block Day 2	8 Block Day 3	9 B.O.D. Mtg 7 AM Block Day 4
12 Block Day 5	13 Block Day 6	14 End of 1st quarter Block Day 1	15 Early Release 12:30 PM Block Day 2	16 No School
19 Block Day 3	20 Block Day 4	21 Block Day 5	22 Picture Retakes Block Day 6	23 Block Day 1
26 Report Cards Red Ribbon Week >>> Block Day 2	27 Block Day 3	28 Block Day 4	29 Fall Fest 4-6 PM Block Day 5	30 Block Day 6

**LUNCH****OCTOBER 2026****Berkley Charter School**

School information:

Mon -Thursday Chef Salad or Chicken Caesar salad, Fri, Yogurt Muffin. Mon – Friday, Ham or Turkey sandwich or wrap.

Breakfast K-5 \$1.35 Staff A la-carte pricing. Lunch K-5 \$2.70 & Staff \$5.00.

*Menu subject to change without notice.

Monday**Tuesday****Wednesday****Thursday****Friday**


Chicken Patty Sandwich
Romaine, Tomato & Pickle
Sweet Potato Fries
Juice
Milk

Spaghetti w/roll
Sliced Carrots
Garden Salad
Chilled fruit
Milk

BBQ Chicken on a bun
Potato Wedges
Green Beans
Fresh fruit
Milk

Corn Dog
Baked fries
Green Beans
Chilled fruit
Milk

Pizza
Corn
Celery w/ dip
Juice
Milk

Beef Nachos w/cheese cup
Rice
Beans
Sliced Carrots
Juice
Milk

Chicken and Waffle
Baked beans
Cole Slaw
Chilled fruit
Milk

Hamburger on a bun
Romaine, Tomato & pickle
Baked fries
Fresh fruit
Milk

Walking taco w/ romaine & Tomato
Pinto Beans
Rice
Broccoli
Chilled fruit
Milk

Pizza
Corn
Carrots w/ dip
Juice
Milk

Chicken soft taco
Rice
Black beans
Carrots w/ dip
Juice
Milk

Shepherd's pie w/ Roll
Peas & Carrots
Green Beans
Chilled fruit
Milk

Cheeseburger on a bun
Romaine, Tomato & pickle
Baked fries
Fresh fruit
Milk

Chicken Alfredo pasta w/roll
Popeye salad
Caribbean Blend
Chilled fruit
Milk

**HOLIDAY
NO SCHOOL**

Beef Tacos w/ cheese cup
Romaine & Tomato
Rice
Pinto Beans
Juice
Milk

Starfish Nuggets
Macaroni & Cheese
Cole Slaw
Sliced carrots
Chilled fruit
Milk

Sloppy Joe on a bun
Baked Fries
Green Beans
Fresh fruit
Milk

Teriyaki Chicken w/ Rice
Steamed broccoli
Sliced carrots
Chilled fruit
Milk

Pizza
Corn
Garden Salad
Juice
Milk

Chicken Nuggets w/ biscuit
Mashed Potatoes
Garden Salad
Chilled fruit
Milk

Pizza
Corn
Carrots w/ dip
Juice
Milk

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**MY
SCHOOL
BUCKS****PAY FOR MEALS ONLINE**

MySchoolBucks.com

All entries
due by
October 2nd!

YEARBOOK COVER CONTEST

ALL STUDENTS (KG-5TH) ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE!

- ★ Must be on an 8.5x11 sheet of paper (unlined, computer paper).
- ★ Picture must be drawn vertically (see example).
- ★ Make it **COLORFUL** and **CREATIVE**!
- ★ You can use crayons, markers, paint, etc.
- ★ You can choose a theme as inspiration (Knights, school, superheroes, etc.) or create your own unique idea.
- ★ Please **DO NOT FOLD** your artwork.
- ★ Remember to **CHECK YOUR SPELLING**.
- ★ Please write your *full name lightly in pencil ON THE BACK* of the paper.
- ★ Entries without a name cannot be considered.
- ★ Finished entries must be submitted to Mrs. Bateman by October 2nd.

1

winner will have their artwork featured on the cover AND will receive a **free yearbook!**

OTHER STUDENT ENTRIES WILL BE DISPLAYED ON THE BACK COVER OR THROUGHOUT THE BOOK.



Get your copy early and save! *

order your
YEARBOOK
today!



ORDER ONLINE

www.BuyTheYearbook.com

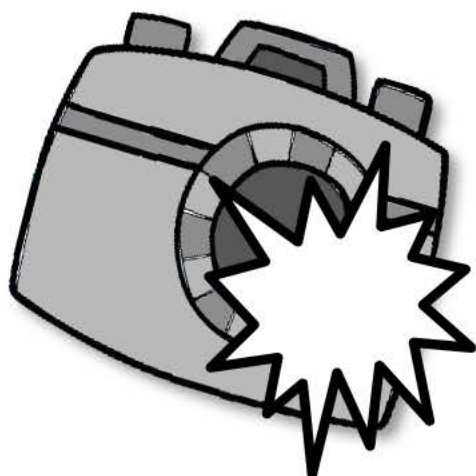
-Find your school

-Click 'Yearbooks & Personalization'

-Enter student information

-Make product selections & 'Add to Cart'

-Click 'Cart' to checkout



OR SEND CASH/CHECK

made payable to: ***Berkley Charter School***

****Prices will go up after January 31st!***

If you are NOT purchasing online,
please fill out and return the bottom of this form with your payment.

Student Name: _____

Teacher: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Email: _____

If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Terry: amanda.terry@berkleyknights.net

RED RIBBON WEEK

October
26-30

MON

OCT 26



Heroes Wear Red.

Heroes make healthy, positive choices.

Wear red from head to toe.

TUE

OCT 27



Step Up & Be a Hero.

Sock it to bad choices like a hero would!

Wear crazy socks.

WED

OCT 28



Hometown Heroes are Everywhere.

Everyday heroes make a difference!

Wear something that reminds you of your real life hero.

THURS

OCT 29



Power-Up, Superhero Style.

We all have the power to be heroes.

Dress like your favorite superhero.

FRI

OCT 30



Superhero Squad

Heroes team up with people who make good choices.

Wear your favorite team shirt.

**OCT
31
2026**

START TIME:

Grade Level Heats — 8:30 a.m.
Family Heat — 10:45 a.m.

RACE DAY CHECK-IN:

At the **Lake Mirror
Auditorium** — Lakeland,
Florida

You are invited to participate in the Red Ribbon Kids Fun Run on Saturday, October 31, 2026 around picturesque Lake Mirror. It's a fun family event where parents can run with their children during the Family Heat — 10:45 a.m.

**RED RIBBON RUN REGISTRATION
IS FREE FOR KIDS K-8TH GRADE!**

If parents are running in Family Heat,
there is a \$5 fee per parent.

**REGISTER ONLINE TODAY AT
INNERACTALLIANCE.ORG**

Registration for the Kids Fun Run is FREE prior to October 31st but there will be a \$5 charge day of race. Only students **registered by October 16th** will receive a free commemorative Run t-shirt. The Fun Run will start and finish at Lake Mirror Promenade. K-8 students will receive awards for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place trophies in male and female categories. Awards will also be given to the top 3 elementary schools and top middle school with the largest percentage of student participation based on school census numbers. The private school with the highest percentage of participation will also receive a trophy.



**RACE DAY CHECK-IN
FOR KIDS FUN RUN**

will take place in the Lake Mirror
Auditorium starting at 6:30 a.m. Matching
wristbands will be issued to all parents
and children during check-in.

PARKING:

Lakeland Electric Garage or **Main Street Garage**

Bring Chairs & Blankets for participants and
spectators to watch the exciting races.

Join us at the end of your heat at the World Tour to
participate in healthy activities, sample fruits and
veggies, enjoy milk and cookies, and experience
different cultures from around the globe.

2026

**INNERACT ALLIANCE
RED RIBBON
RUN**

PRESENTED BY Publix



MISSION

TO REDUCE THE ABUSE AND UNDERAGE USE OF HARMFUL
SUBSTANCES ALONG WITH INVOLVEMENT IN OTHER
RISKY BEHAVIORS THROUGH: COMMUNITY AWARENESS
AND INVOLVEMENT; PREVENTION EDUCATION; ECONOMIC
SUPPORT; AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT.

FOR ALL ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CHECKOUT
INNERACTALLIANCE.ORG

2026 RED RIBBON RUN & CHALLENGE

offers fun activities to do
over 4 weeks. Challenges
may be completed in PE
class or at home.

The Challenges kick off
on September 28.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Go to [InnerActAlliance.org](https://www.InnerActAlliance.org)
- click Red Ribbon Run tab
to register
2. Post challenges
#RedRibbonChallenges
to InnerAct Alliance
Facebook page to show
your hard work



SEPT. 28-OCT. 4

FAMILY DINNER & ACTIVITIES

Eat & Keep Fit Together

Create a Balanced Meal Plan – see
www.mypate.gov to find out more.

Find a family recipe to cook
together as a family or with friends.

- Celebrate National Family Day
Monday, Sept 28 by eating dinner
together as a family.
- Eat together as a family 4 at least
4 times a week.
- Involve the whole family in
selecting meals – from grocery
shopping to cooking it.
- Take After-Dinner family walks.
- Do Fun Family Exercises like jumping
jacks, squats, high knees. Post
activities on our IAA Facebook page.
- Learn Body Stretches and Warm-Ups.
– Touch your toes or reach for the sky.
- Practice short running sprints each
day & Register for the Red Ribbon
Run at [InnerActAlliance.org](https://www.InnerActAlliance.org)



Publix.



OCT. 5-11



KINDNESS & TOLERANCE

Ways to Promote the Positive!

YOU can make your world a better
place by finding ways to help
someone or make them feel better.
This also includes Self-Care and
being kind to Yourself too.

- Tell yourself each day how GREAT
YOU ARE!
- Start a kindness journal and write
down 3 things you are grateful for
each day.
- Kindness Challenge-Say or Do one
kind thing each day.
- Make a Kindness Circle – Toss
ball to someone. When you have
it, share a nice trait that you have
and the person on your right has.
- Join us to “Run the World” &
Register for Red Ribbon Run at
[InnerActAlliance.org](https://www.InnerActAlliance.org)



OCT 12-18

HEALTHY MIND/ HEALTHY BODY

Being your Best You

Eat foods that are good for you and
stay physically active. You will feel
better and be able to help others too!

- Yoga is easy. It can be done at home,
in the classroom, or at recess.
- Have fun moving! Move like an
elephant, jump like a kangaroo, slither
like a snake.
- Breathe in and out to focus your mind
and calm your body.
- Create a fun obstacle course with
pillows, pool noodles, or equipment
inside or outside at home. Make it a
competition to complete it.
- Every “Body” Is Different! That is
something to celebrate because we
are all unique.



OCT. 19-25



INVEST IN YOURSELF & IN YOUR FUTURE

*Take time to learn about
ourselves and other people,
places, and cultures.*

- Learn about your family
history. Ask your parents/
grandparents about where
your ancestors came from
and learn family stories.
- Create a memory book about
you and your family.
- Do a craft with family.
- Set a Goal! - Maybe save
money each week. For
inspiration, create a poster
for some of the things you
want to do or buy.



MIDFLORIDA
Florida's community credit union

WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW Screening for Type 1 Diabetes

Type 1 diabetes is a lifelong autoimmune condition causing the destruction of the cells in the pancreas that make insulin. This means the body can't control blood sugar (glucose) on its own. Without management of high blood glucose levels, over time it **can lead to serious and life-threatening health complications**.

Studies indicate that screening for autoantibodies through **a simple low to no-cost blood test can effectively identify those who will develop type 1 diabetes**, potentially before the need for insulin. It can also identify the stage of the condition.

Type 1 diabetes often starts in kids ages

4–6
years old

10–14
years old

but it can happen at any age.

BENEFITS OF SCREENING YOUR CHILD EARLY

While type 1 diabetes cannot be prevented, early detection can help families to:

- Reduce the risk of life-threatening complications and hospitalization
- Plan and manage a potential diagnosis and treatment strategy

COMMON SYMPTOMS OF DIABETES

- ☐ Irritability/behavioral changes
- ☐ Increased thirst or hunger
- ☐ Increased urination/bedwetting
- ☐ Unexplained weight loss
- ☐ Fruity-smelling breath
- ☐ Blurred vision
- ☐ Fatigue

TYPE OF DIABETES

Type 2 diabetes is a metabolic disease influenced by a range of genetic and lifestyle factors that and can usually be prevented. Unlike type 2, **type 1 diabetes** is an autoimmune disease that cannot be prevented by lifestyle or dietary changes. While researchers don't know exactly what causes type 1 diabetes, those that seem to be more at risk have a close family relative with the disease or other autoimmune conditions.

SCREENING RESOURCES FOR TYPE 1 DIABETES

The screening can identify proteins in the blood (ICA, GAD, IAA, IA-2, ZnT8) that may signal the body's immune system is attacking cells in the pancreas that produce insulin. **Talk to your child's health care provider about screening options.** Other free screening resources include:

TrialNet: *TrialNet.org*

Offers screenings at locations and free home test kits for relatives of people with type 1 diabetes.

Autoimmunity Screening for Kids: *AskHealth.org*

Provides free at-home screening test kits to children starting at age 1, and adults.

EARLY STAGES OF TYPE 1 DIABETES

STAGE 1

- Immune system mistakenly starts to attack insulin-producing beta cells
- 2 or more autoantibodies detected in blood
- Blood sugar levels are within a normal range
- No visible symptoms

STAGE 2

- Immune system continues to attack beta cells
- 2 or more autoantibodies detected in blood
- Blood sugar levels are higher or lower than a normal range
- No visible symptoms

STAGE 3

- Too many beta cells are damaged, body can't make enough insulin
- 2 or more autoantibodies detected
- Blood sugar levels higher than normal range, symptoms are obvious, serious health complications may occur, insulin dependence begins

UNDERSTANDING THE SCREENING RESULTS

NEGATIVE (0-1 autoantibodies)

If your child is under the age of 15, you may consider having them rescreened every year.

POSTIVE (2 or more autoantibodies)

Talk to your child's health care provider about confirmatory testing, establishing a monitoring plan, and options for management.

Learn more about diabetes and resources for assistance at
FloridaHealth.gov/Diabetes

