



BARNWELL ELEMENTARY

9425 Barnwell Rd Johns Creek, GA 30022 470-254-4960

Fulton
County Schools
Where Students Come First

A Note from the Principal, Takisha Benning August 29, 2024

New Information

Dear Barnwell Families,

Thank you to our parents and guardians that came to Curriculum Night tonight. We appreciate your support and look forward to partnering with you to make this a great year for our students! Please reach out directly to your child's teacher with any questions or concerns you have throughout the year. While teachers are busy instructing throughout the day, they will respond to your email or phone call within 24-48 hours (Monday-Friday).

If you have not yet joined our PTO, it is not too late! We need all parents to support our efforts in providing the best educational environment we can for our students. To support our PTO, click [here](#). **We need YOU!**

One of the questions I received during our Curriculum Night is *"How in the world do teachers do their job?"* This is a great question because what we ask teachers to do now is extremely difficult! In simplest terms we want teachers to utilize the "workshop model" throughout the day, which means when presenting new information, they start with a 10-15 minute "minilesson" to the whole class then reinforce/reteach/apply skills through small group rotations. While the teacher meets with one small group, the other students work independently or collaboratively on various projects/assignments. We utilize this approach for both reading and math, varying the assignments and small group instruction to the standard that is expected at each grade level throughout the year. As students move up in grades the level of complexity of both the teaching and assignment increases as does the expectation for them to take ownership of and demonstrate proficiency in their learning.

Teaching is complicated, as each student is unique and what works best with one does not necessarily work for others. To create a community of engaged and empowered learners, teachers constantly manage multiple instructional levels and various personalities, striving to ensure that each student knows that they are loved, valued and an important part of our school. As you can imagine, this is challenging work!

We sincerely appreciate your unwavering support for our students and staff.

Barnwell Bear of the Month

Each month, our staff recognizes a student who exemplifies our core value of character traits. Yesterday, we had the pleasure of celebrating thirty outstanding students who demonstrated the

trait of “**Kindness**” in August. It was a wonderful celebration! Congratulations to our students and their families honored yesterday. We eagerly anticipate recognizing more of our students in the months to come

Upcoming Student Holidays:

In observance of Labor Day, Fulton County Schools will be closed on **Monday, September 2nd**. In addition, schools will be **closed** to students **Tuesday and Wednesday, September 3rd and 4th** for a teacher workday and professional learning, respectively. **School will resume for students on Thursday, September 5th**. Please click [here](#) for the FCS 2024-2025 calendar.

We hope this extended break allows you and your family to enjoy quality time together. **We look forward to seeing everyone back in the building on Thursday, September 5th**. We appreciate your ongoing support in ensuring our students attend school punctually and consistently.

September 13th – VIP Grandparents Day Breakfast:

Please plan to join us for a heartwarming celebration at Barnwell’s Grandparents Day Breakfast. Please limit it to only **two** special people per family. Flyers were sent home last week. Please click [here](#) for more information.

To volunteer for our VIP Breakfast click here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20FoC4BADA72DA6F58-50924224-vipbreakfast#/> Be sure to [click here to complete the volunteer protocol](#) prior to your arrival.

September 18th – Principals Coffee Chat:

Please mark your calendars for the Principals Coffee Chat on Wednesday, September 18th from 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM in the Media Center. This informal gathering offers a wonderful opportunity to connect, share your thoughts, ask questions, and receive updates on our initiatives for the school year.

To help us gauge participation, we have included a Signup Genius link. If you plan to attend, kindly click the link to let us know. Thank you!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoD4CAA72AABFBC34-50745775-principal>

2024-2025 Fulton County Student Technology Competition

The anticipation is building, and we are thrilled to announce that the 2024-2025 Fulton County Student Technology Competition is officially on the horizon! Mark your calendars for Saturday, January 11, 2025; it's going to be a day filled with innovation, creativity, and, of course, technology!

This event is not just about competition; it's a unique platform where our talented students come together to share their passion for technology. Whether new to the competition or seasoned veterans, we have something to ignite every spark of interest.

Important Details:

- **Date and Venue:** This year's competition will be held in person at Riverwood High School on January 11, 2025, from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM.
- **Student Registration:** More information is coming soon!

We can't wait to see what our students will create this year. By fostering creativity and innovation,

we are not just organizing a competition but shaping the future!

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions, concerns, or if you need more information. Here's to a fantastic competition season! Barnwell Contact: Stephanie Beckles beckles@fultonschools.org

Recurring School and Community News

Fall Picture Day – September 10th

Picture Day is coming **Tuesday, September 10th**! Be on the lookout for order flyers that were sent home in your student's folder this week.

Student Pickup/Building Entry

A driver's license or government issued ID is required for all student checkouts and any entry into the building. Please have your ID available to present to the camera when you ring the bell to be buzzed in.

Changes In Transportation

Any changes in dismissal transportation must be submitted to the student's teacher using our [dismissal change form](#) which is available on our school website. If there is a last-minute change in dismissal, please call the front office. Students are only allowed to ride the bus assigned to their home address.

Barnwell PTO Family Portrait Day – September 28th and 29th

Mini Photo Sessions are available for purchase through our partnership with Spoiled Rotten Photography. The \$35 is donated directly to the PTO and there will be options to buy various photo packages. [Click here to sign up.](#)

Jr. Gladiators Girls Basketball

Tryouts for Jr. Gladiators Girls Basketball is coming on September 28th. Please click [here](#) for more information.

Dates to Remember

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Labor Day	9/2	School Closed	---
Teacher Workday	9/3	Students Off	---
Professional Dev Day	9/4	Students Off	---
Fall Walk to School Day	9/9	7:10 am-7:40 am	---
Picture Day	9/10	During school day	---
VIP Grandparents Day Breakfast	9/13	6:45 am-7:40 am	Cafeteria
Publix Math Night	9/17	5:30 pm-7:30 pm	Haynes Publix
Principal Coffee Chat	9/18	8:00 am-9:00 am	Media Center
All Pro Dad's Breakfast	9/20	6:45 am-7:30 am	Cafeteria
PTO Board Mtg	9/20	7:30 am-9:00 am	Adm Conf Room
Art Extravaganza Contest Begins	9/23		---
PTO Family Portraits	9/28 & 9/29	TBD	TBD

Administrative Team

Throughout the year, I encourage you to reach out to your child's teacher with any classroom questions or to our Administrative Team with any school-wide questions:

- Renee Morris Diggelmann, Assistant Principal – Diggelmannr@fultonschools.org
- Alysia Muse, Curriculum Support Teacher - Musea@fultonschools.org
- Chelsea Garcia, School Counselor – GarciaC2@fultonschools.org
- Eden Griffin, Instructional Support Teacher – GriffinE1@fultonschools.org
- Takisha Benning, Principal – Benning@fultonschools.org

Quick Links

[Attendance Options](#)

[Bus Stop Information](#)

[Here Comes the Bus Info](#)

[Dismissal Change Form](#)

[Birthday Celebration Form](#)

Takisha Benning
Principal

