

Shark Bytes

Shakerag Elementary
Christine Lemerond, Principal
Samantha Weaver, Assistant Principal

January 24, 2025

Follow us on Twitter: [@ShakeragShark](#)

Visit our website: www.shakeragelementary.com

Shark Tales:

Fulton County's District Spelling Bee

Good luck to Aidric L. in Ms. Greene's 4th grade class, as he participates in Fulton County's District Spelling Bee tomorrow, Saturday, January 25! We are so proud of you!

Chick-fil-A Spirit Night

We want to thank our business partner, Chick-fil-A of Johns Creek for their sponsorship with our school.

Keeping Children Safe in a Digital World Workshop

We are very fortunate that as a Strong 4 Life school, in partnership with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, we will be offering a parent session on "Keeping Children Safe in a Digital World." We hope you will be able to join us on **Tuesday, January 28 from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. in the Media Center at Shakerag ES.** **Please click [here](#) to RSVP!**

The purpose of this presentation is to discuss different types of technology, how they are used by children, and how adults can help protect children in a digital world. By the end of this session, participants will be able to recognize at least four social media apps kids use, define cyberbullying, and identify steps adults can take to protect children from online risks. This presentation is fit for any professional, parent, or community member interested in digital safety.

We are all looking forward to this exciting opportunity!

Shakerag Elementary will soon teach kids to Think First & Stay Safe™

Fulton County Schools is excited to share that we will soon commence our personal safety education program for all elementary students called *Think First & Stay Safe™*. The *Think First & Stay Safe™* program is a research-based program that teaches specific personal safety education by way of interactive classroom lessons, classroom posters, role-plays and corresponding activities. *Think First & Stay Safe™* enables students to take an active and necessary role in protecting themselves from harassment, abduction, bullying, exploitation, and various forms of abuse (physical, sexual, emotional).

In February of this school year, *Think First & Stay Safe™* lessons will be implemented at Shakerag Elementary School for all K-5 students. You may preview this curriculum in the Shakerag Media Center from January 21, 2025, to January 29, 2025. You can also learn more about the detailed lesson plans and research behind this program at www.childluresprevention.com. Please be aware that more information is provided on the website than will actually be used in Fulton County Schools.

If you prefer that your child not participate in the *Think First & Stay Safe™* program, please sign the bottom of the parent letter that went home last week in Friday folders and have your child return it to the school counselor, Ms. Paras, by Friday, January 31, 2025. If you have any additional questions, please reach out to our school counselor, Ms. Paras at ParasM@fultonschools.org.

Save the Date: Gladiator Hockey Community Night – 3/14!

Get ready for a night of fun & community as Shakerag teams up with Medlock Bridge ES, Findley Oaks ES, Wilson Creek ES, River Trail MS and Northview HS to cheer on the Gladiators at Gas South Arena! Join us on **Friday, March 14th at 7:30 p.m.** for an exciting game and a chance to connect with your community! A portion of every ticket sold will support our school, so grab yours today! Click [HERE](#) for more details and to purchase tickets. We can't wait to see you there!

A Message from the PTO:

Student Agenda Cover Contest for current 2nd and 4th Grade Students

We need assistance from our current 2nd and 4th-grade students to design the 2025-2026 student agenda front cover. Students in grade 2 or 4 interested in submitting a design should return their artwork and completed entry [form](#) to the front desk or email meghana.bakare26@gmail.com by **Friday, February 28, 2025**. All students' entries will be submitted to a Shakerag PTO committee to choose the top design. Please have your students use the Shakerag Sharks school expectations of "Leadership, Kindness, and Respect" in their artwork. Good luck to all submitting artwork!! The Shakerag PTO is excited to see your masterpiece!!

School Dance – SAVE THE DATE!

Please save the date for this year's school dance on February 21, 2025! More details will be coming soon. For information on volunteer opportunities, please contact Sonam Dewan at dewan.sonam@gmail.com or Sarah Chu at cigar1121@hotmail.com.



Yearbook

Reserve a yearbook today! Order your student's yearbook using this link: [Order Yearbook](#)

The yearbook team is looking for pictures to be added to the 24-25 yearbook. Please upload any First Day of School, Kona Ice Social, Storybook Night, Community Night, or Pictures with Sharky using this QR code or click [here](#).



A Message from the School Governance Council (SGC):

School Governance Council (SGC) Meeting

Our next School Governance Council meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 26 at 8:00 a.m.** At this meeting we will be holding a 10-minute public comment session. If you are interested in speaking at our public comment, please email Rashi Manaktala at manaktalar@fultonschools.org. Public comment will be held at the end of the meeting. To read more about our School Governance Council, we invite you to visit our School Governance Council (SGC) website by clicking [here](#).

The School Governance Council is looking for a parent representative to finish out one of our open terms. This is about a one hour a month commitment. If you are interested in additional details, please reach out to Mrs. Lemerond at Lemerond@fultonschools.org.

A Message from Fulton County:

Attendance Matters ALL DAY, EVERYDAY - TAKE ATTENDANCE SERIOUSLY

It's common for students to experience a significant increase in chronic absenteeism during the winter months due to an increase in typical illnesses. We encourage being on time to school and to attend daily unless your child becomes seriously sick, contagious, or has a documented legal excuse for missing school. One step to preventing the spread of winter illnesses is good hand washing techniques with soap. Seriously sick and contagious children should stay home from school especially if they have a fever, diarrhea, or any illness requiring attention from a medical professional. Be sure to turn in medical notes excusing your child for the days they are absent from school. Please list your child's first and last name, teacher's name, all the dates your child was absent, and the reason for missing school. If you have a doctor's note, please send in a copy with your child upon their return. If a doctor's visit is not required, then a regular parent note to the teacher explaining the reason for your child's absence should be sent as soon as possible so that the absence may be considered to be excused by administration. Otherwise, it's important that kids arrive at school on time every day.

Please remember that our car rider lines back up and the traffic is very bad in our area so consider having your child ride the school bus to prevent tardies. If your child is missing a lot of school due to illness, make sure to check with the teacher about any work that needs to be completed. Also, check in with your child to ensure they're caught up on missed assignments, and to see if they need assistance and/or support to complete them. Reach out to your child's teacher for assistance when necessary. If you have questions regarding Fulton County's attendance policy, please reach out to our Assistant Principal, Samantha Weaver, or our School Data Clerk, Courtney Gatlin Cleary. Chronic absenteeism occurs when students miss 10% or more of school for any reason including legal reasons. Missing school makes a huge impact on students' abilities to learn and be 100% successful during their time in PK-12th grade.

Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance! School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

Have a wonderful weekend!

