



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 October 2, 2025

New Information

Happy Fall, Barnwell Bears!

As the season shifts and the leaves begin to change, we're looking forward to a wonderful season filled with learning and laughter. Fall brings not only cooler weather, but also exciting academic milestones and fun community events here at Barnwell. We can't wait to celebrate and grow together this season!

Upcoming Fall Break:

All Fulton County Schools will be closed for Fall Break, **October 13th through October 17th**. Please click [here](#) for the FCS 2025-2026 calendar.

November 4th –Teacher Workday

Tuesday, November 4th will be a teacher workday-no school for students.

Fun Run, Friday, October 3, 2025

This Friday is our Barnwell Fun Run, proudly sponsored by our amazing PTO! Thank you for your generous contributions that make this event possible. Our students are excited to participate, and we'd love to have you join us to cheer them on. Come out and enjoy the fun!

Grade Level	Fun Run Time
PK, K, and 1 st	8:30am
2 nd and 3 rd	9:30am
4 th and 5 th	10:30am

Reading and Math Skill Groups

Did you know that at Barnwell Elementary our teachers work with students every day in small skill groups for reading and math?

- **Reading Skill Groups:** Students get targeted support to extend and strengthen decoding, fluency, and comprehension skills.
- **Math Skill Groups:** Students practice number sense, problem solving, and critical thinking strategies.

These small skill groups allow teachers to meet students right where they are and help them take the next big step in learning!

If your child is experiencing challenges or if you simply have questions about their performance in reading and/or math, please feel free to reach out directly to your child's teacher. They will be happy to share how your child is working within their skill group and ways you can support them at home.

[Retake Picture Day – Tuesday, October 21st](#)

Our school Retake Picture Day is scheduled for Tuesday, October 21st from 8:00 AM-9:00 AM for students who were absent on our original scheduled picture day or anyone requiring their picture retaken. If you would like to have your child's picture retaken, please notify their teacher.

[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.

[Parent Lunch Visits](#)

Thank you for your patience as we navigated recent class and schedule adjustments, including updates to our lunch times and cafeteria seating. We are excited to share that beginning the week of October 20th, parents will be invited to join us for lunch.

Parent lunch visits will be available Monday through Thursday each week.

As a reminder:

- Outside lunches and food deliveries are not permitted.
- Parents may only eat lunch with their own student/s.
- A valid photo ID will be required at check-in when entering the building.

We look forward to welcoming you back into the cafeteria to enjoy this special time with your child. Thank you for your continued support and for partnering with us to make lunch a positive and safe experience for everyone.

[Taste the World: Your School Lunch Passport!](#)

Pack your bags and grab your lunch trays - Fulton County Schools is taking you on a global culinary adventure during National School Lunch Week, October 20-24, 2025! This year's theme, Taste the World: Your School Lunch Passport, celebrates the rich diversity of our student community through delicious international flavors.

Get ready to explore NEW limited-time menu items inspired by cuisines from around the globe, enjoy surprise visits from celebrity servers (your favorite principals, teachers, and coaches!), and take part in exciting giveaways. Each bite is a passport stamp on your journey of flavor, culture, and connection. Don't miss this delicious celebration - your world tour starts in the cafeteria!

[Trunk-or-Treat & Movie Night – October 24th 6:00 PM](#)

Mark your calendars for a spook-tacular night of fun! Our annual Trunk-or-Treat and Movie Night is coming soon, and this year's feature film will be *How to Train Your Dragon*. Join us for treats, laughter, and a family-friendly movie under the stars!

This is a **free event!** Enjoy popcorn and water (while supplies last). If you would like to enjoy pizza for your family, we are taking pre-orders from Nonnina's Pizza. Please click the link below to place your order by **October 22nd: [Order Pizza Here!](#)**

We need YOU to make this event Magical!

- **Host a Trunk** – Decorate your car and share some sweet treats!
- **Donate Candy** – Help ensure every child leaves with a bag full of goodies!
- **Sign up here:** [Volunteer or Donate Candy](#)

Book Character Dress-Up- Day

We invite all our students to embrace their inner bookworm and celebrate “Book Character Day” with us on Friday, October 31st.

Here’s how it works:

1. **Choose a character:** Students will choose a beloved character from their favorite book, this could be a children’s story, a graphic novel, or even a comic book hero. Please make sure characters are school appropriate (no masks, no prop weapons, no scary costumes).
2. **Get Creative:** Start planning your book character costume now.
3. **Join the Fun:** On Friday, October 31st, students will come to school dressed as their chosen book character.
4. **Share your Story:** Have students carry their book or a picture of the cover and be prepared to share a brief description of their book and character with their class.

Let’s make Book Character Day memorable and entertaining celebration of literature and imagination. Our students will have the chance to see some of their favorite characters come to life at Barnwell.

Spirit Wear Update—Thank you for Supporting Our Bears!

Thank you so much to everyone who purchased spirit wear to show your Barnwell Bear pride! We are excited to share that all orders have been placed and are expected to arrive the week of October 20th.

Once the items arrive, we will deliver them to students’ classrooms. We can’t wait to see our students and families showing off their Barnwell spirit by wearing their new gear proudly!

Yearbooks!

Order your yearbook today! Don’t miss out – yearbooks are on sale at www.balfour.com for just \$37.00! Capture those priceless Barnwell memories and secure your copy today.

Recurring School and Community News

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.

Student Health Update

We kindly ask for your cooperation in maintaining a safe and healthy environment by keeping students at home if they are unwell, exhibiting a fever of 100.4°F or higher, or experiencing chronic diarrhea and/or vomiting.

To return to school, students must demonstrate improved health, be fever-free without the aid of fever-reducing medications and have not experienced vomiting or diarrhea for at least 24 hours. For further information, please click [here](#) to visit the District Health Services website.

Barnwell's Family Portrait Day

Registration is now open for Barnwell's Family Portrait Day! Sessions will be held on October 4th & 5th at Historic Bulloch Hall in Roswell.

Mini sessions cost \$35 with the option to purchase photos. Each mini session fee will be donated directly back to our PTO! Bear Pack and Principal Club donors will receive a FREE mini session and 15% off photo purchases. If you donated to these levels, a representative will reach out to schedule your free mini session. Click [here](#) to reserve your time slot today!

JCHS Future Gladiators Night – Friday, October 3rd

Johns Creek High School is hosting a Future Gladiators Night on Friday, October 3rd. Please click [here](#) for more information.

Dates to Remember

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Barnwell Fun Run	10/3	8:30 am PreK-1 9:30 am 2-3 10:30 am 4-5	Backfield
Barnwell Family Portraits	10/4 & 10/5	Register online	Johns Creek Environmental Ctr
Papa John's Spirit Night	10/6- 10/9	4:00 pm-9:00 pm	Papa John's Locations
Fall Break	10/13- 10/17	School Closed	---
Retake Picture Day	10/21	8:00 am-9:00 am	Barnwell
All Pro Dad's Breakfast	10/24	6:45 am-7:30 am	Cafeteria
Trunk or Treat Movie Night	10/24	6:00 pm-9:30 pm	Backfield
PTO Board Meeting	10/24	7:30 am-9:00 am	Adm Conf Room
Art Extravaganza Contest Ends	10/29	---	---
Candy for a Cause	11/3	7:10 am-7:40 am	Car & Bus Entrances
Teacher Workday (Election)	11/4	School Closed (students)	---
International Night	11/6	5:30 pm-7:30 pm	Cafeteria
Adventure Air Spirit Night	11/12	5:00 pm-8:00 pm	Adventure Air
Book Fair	11/14- 11/21	8:00 am-1:30 pm	Media Center
All Pro Dad's Breakfast	11/14	6:45 am-7:30 am	Cafeteria
PTO Board Meeting	11/21	7:30 am-9:00 am	Adm Conf Room
Art Extravaganza Awards Breakfast	11/21	6:45 am-7:30 am	Cafeteria
Thanksgiving Break	11/24- 11/28	School Closed	---

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
- Dr. Helen Herring, Instructional Support Teacher – Herringh@fultonschools.org
- Takisha Benning, Principal – Benning@fultonschools.org

Quick Links

[Attendance Options](#)

[Bus Stop Information](#)

[Dismissal Change Form](#)

[Birthday Celebration Form](#)

Takisha Benning
Principal