



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 16, 2025

New Information

Happy Fall Break!

We hope everyone is enjoying a well-deserved fall break. Whether you're traveling, spending time with loved ones, or simply relaxing at home, take this time to recharge. We look forward to welcoming our Barnwell Bears back to school on Monday, October 20th refreshed and ready for our exciting events ahead.

Thank You Barnwell Community!

Our 2025 PTO Fun Run Fundraiser was a HUGE success—we met our schoolwide goal! We're excited to share the campus enhancements your generosity will make possible. Stay tuned for updates.

Lunch Visits

Beginning on Monday, October 20th, parents will be invited to join us for lunch. Lunch visits will be available Monday through Thursday each week.

Friendly Reminders:

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

Qustodio: A New Tool for Families to Monitor and Manage Your Child's Online Activity

As part of our ongoing efforts to support digital safety, we're excited to share that Fulton County Schools will launch Qustodio on October 20th, a free app that helps parents monitor and manage their child's online activity. This tool gives families insight into how students use both district-issued and personal devices.

For district-issued devices:

- Parents can see how much time their child spends online, which apps are being used, and what searches are conducted during the school day.
- Families can also set time limits and restrictions outside of normal school hours to encourage healthy screen time habits.

For student personal devices (optional):

- Parents can choose to install Qustodio on personal devices to monitor usage and set limits at home.
- Fulton County Schools does not have any visibility or access to data from student or parent/guardian personal devices — that information is visible only to the parent or guardian who installs the app.

After October 20th, use this link: qustodio.com/my-school to begin Qustodio. Please use your Parent Portal email address during the sign-up process.

Thank you for helping us promote responsible digital habits and strengthen the partnership between home and school. For any questions or support, please contact myschool@qustodio.com.

Picture Retake Day – Tuesday, October 21st

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

All Pro Dad's Breakfast – Friday, October 24th

Friday, October 24th at 6:45 AM, Barnwell dads and students are invited for breakfast in the cafeteria. Take a chance to connect with your student, their school, and discuss topics that help students to build character. Upcoming topics include: Determination, Confidence, and Joy. (No child should feel left out - Moms or Guardians are welcome too) PLEASE RSVP at allprodadchapters.com/chapters/4353

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 order pizza for your family, PTO will be taking pre-orders for Nonnina's Pizza. Please click the link below to place your order by **Wednesday, 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 a 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.

Art Extravaganza

We are inviting all students to participate in our 5th Annual Art Extravaganza. This year's theme is **"Eat Your Art Out"**!

Student submissions are accepted through October 29th. Students can submit a culinary inspired masterpiece in one or more of the following categories: dance choreography, film production, literature, music composition, photography, and/or visual arts.

Let's invite creativity to meet cuisine in this unique celebration of art!
[Click here for more information and to enter your submission](#) or email BarnwellArtExtravaganza@gmail.com

Candy for a Cause – Monday, November 3rd

Got too much Halloween candy? If you're *haunted* by leftover sweets and a never-ending sugar rush, we've got the perfect treat (for you *and* our troops)! Join us for **Candy for a Cause on Monday, November 3rd.**

Bring your extra candy and we'll donate it to **Blue Star: Military Support Group**, who will send these goodies to our brave service members deployed overseas. Collection will take place at the carpool drop-off lane & bus unloading areas. Let's turn that sugar rush into a **sweet gesture of gratitude!**

Teacher Workday – Tuesday, November 4th

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

Join us for International Night 2025!

We're excited to invite all Barnwell families to our upcoming International Night—A Celebration of Culture and Community Connection.

Join us for an evening filled with food, music, and fun as we celebrate the many cultures that make our school community so special. This is one of our favorite annual events, bringing together families, traditions, and stories from around the world.

Date: Thursday, November 6, 2025

Time: 5:30 PM–7:30 PM

Location: Barnwell Elementary Cafeteria

Want to participate? Host a cultural table? Perform or share a tradition? Or volunteer to help make the night a success? Sign up [here!](#)

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, 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!

Building Student Success Through Emotional Learning

Did you know our students engage in **Student Success Skills** twice a week? These dedicated blocks of time focus on **Social Emotional Learning (SEL)**, helping students grow into confident, compassionate, and collaborative learners.

Each week, students explore strategies that include but are not limited to reflective learning, kindness, and empathy, and collaborative problem-solving.

These skills offer lasting benefits:

1. Improved academic performance through better focus and self-regulation.
2. Stronger relationships with peers and adults, built on empathy and respect.
3. Resilience and confidence to navigate challenges both in and out of the classroom.

Parent Partnership Opportunity:

We encourage you to talk with your child about what they're learning during Student Success Skills time. Ask them to share a moment when they have practiced kindness or solved a problem with a friend. Your engagement reinforces these lessons at home!

Recurring School and Community News

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.

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.

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.

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!

Dates to Remember

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Picture Retake 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