



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 30, 2025

New Information

Thank you to all our families who joined us for Trunk-or-Treat and Family Movie Night! It was wonderful to see our community come together for such a fun evening of costumes, creativity, and connection.

As we “fall back” this weekend, don’t forget to set your clocks back one hour! The weather is turning brisk, the leaves are changing, and it’s the perfect time to cozy up and enjoy the season.

We continue to be excited about all the great things happening here at Barnwell—from upcoming learning opportunities to special events that bring our community closer together. Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership in making our school such a warm and vibrant place for our students to learn and grow.

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.

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.

International Night 2025

Join us for International Night on Thursday, November 6, from 5:30PM–7:30PM in the Barnwell cafeteria! So far, only five families have signed up to host a table — we'd love to have more participation!

Each table/booth host will receive a \$100 reimbursement to help with expenses such as décor or cultural items. If you interested in hosting a table, performing, or volunteering please click the link to sign up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0545A9AC2AA3FFC61-59387760-international>

Art Extravaganza—Deadline Extended

The Art Extravaganza deadline has been extended to **Tuesday, November 4th**! We're still looking for creative submissions from our talented Barnwell Bears. Entries are welcome in dance, film, literature, music, photography, and visual arts. Click the link below to submit your work! [Art Extravaganza Submission Form](#)

“Harvest of Hope”: Barnwell Fall Food Drive

Let's prepare to fill the shelves for a great cause! Our awesome Student Council and PTO are teaming up to collect food for North Fulton Community Charities (NFCC)!

Bring your food donations November 10th through November 14th. Donated items will be collected every day in your child's classroom. Every can, box, and bag makes a big difference. Please keep an eye out for our flyer with the “most needed” items — and stay tuned for a chance to help load up the NFCC truck!

Thanksgiving Feast

It's that special time of year when we gather to celebrate gratitude, community, and—of course—turkey! To accommodate all our guests, we'll celebrate over two days and will not have regular lunch guests on these days:

- Wednesday, November 12th: Pre-K through 2nd Grade
- Thursday, November 13th: 3rd Grade through 5th Grade

Barnwell Literati Book Fair is Coming!

Barnwell is excited to host an in-person Literati Book Fair from November 14th –November 21st, with an online companion fair open now! Every purchase earns rewards for our school.

- **Class Visits:** Check the [SCHEDULE](#) to see when your child's class will visit the fair.
- **Individual Shopping:** Students and families can shop anytime during fair hours (7:10AM to 3:00PM).
- **All-Pro Dads Early Access:** November 14, 7:30AM–8:00 AM—shop after breakfast!
- **Family Night:** Tuesday, November 18, 3:30PM–6:30PM—join us for family fun, holiday shopping, and teacher wish lists!

All forms of payment are accepted in person. You can also purchase gift cards for your child to use—printable or synced directly with our registers.

Also shop online at Literati.com/Fall25 to buy books or gift cards; orders will be shipped to your home, and our school still earns rewards. Don't forget to explore Literati Book Clubs—monthly personalized book boxes for kids, with 10% of every dollar benefiting Barnwell!

Recurring School and Community News

Johns Creek High School Soccer 5K for Heroes Race:

The Boys and Girls Soccer Program at Johns Creek HS is having their annual 5K For Heroes race on Saturday, November 15th. Come run, walk, or just gather as we honor the service of our local veterans and first responders. Let's show the heroes in our lives how important they are to us!

The race starts at 9:00am. Can't make it the day of the race? Please consider donating. This year, both programs will be giving back a portion of the proceeds to the American Legion of Johns Creek to help maintain the Memorial Walkway at Newtown Park. The remaining proceeds will support both the Girls and Boys Soccer programs. Use the link below to register. If you don't know a player in the program, please enter SOCCERFORALL as the person who referred you.

<https://jchs.redpodium.com/jchs-2025-5k-for-heroes>

Lunch Visits

Parents are 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.

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.

Dates to Remember

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
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
Book Fair Family Night	11/18	3:30 pm-6:30 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