



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 February 5, 2026

New Information

After two weekends of winter weather, we're looking forward to a brighter, more enjoyable weekend ahead. Whether you're heading outdoors or spending time with family and friends, we hope you find time to relax and recharge.

Even though the groundhog predicts six more weeks of winter, our school community continues to bring warmth and excitement each day. We have many great activities and events coming up, and we're excited to share them with you.

This newsletter includes important updates and upcoming opportunities you won't want to miss. Be sure to mark your calendars and stay connected to all the wonderful things happening at Barnwell.

Wishing everyone a great weekend and a fantastic week ahead!

[Son + One Dance – Friday, February 6th](#)

Wear your brightest neon to our Son + One Glow Dance Party tomorrow, Friday, February 6th from 6:00pm-8:00pm in the Barnwell cafeteria.

A \$25 family ticket admits one adult and their child(ren) and includes drinks, dessert, photo booths, a glow goody bag, DJ and dancing, of course! Tickets can be purchased in advance by clicking [here](#).

We're also looking for a few volunteers to help make this event a success. If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up [here](#)! Additional information about the dance can be found [here](#).

[Date With Your Daughter Dance—Friday, March 13th](#)

Join us for an enchanted evening at the Date with Your Daughter Dance on Friday, March 13th from 6:00 PM-8:00 PM at Barnwell.

A \$25 family ticket admits one adult and child(ren) and includes drinks, dessert, photo booths, a goody bag, DJ and dancing, of course! Tickets can be purchased in advance here (<https://barnwellpto.membershiptoolkit.com/2026dances>).

We're also looking for a few volunteers to make sure everything runs smoothly the day of the event. Sign up here!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0545A9AC2AA3FFC61-62189245-date>

[FCS Schools Will Be Closed February 16th and 17th](#)

All Fulton County Schools will be closed on Monday, February 16th in observance of President's Day. Students will also be off Tuesday, February 17th, due to a Professional Development Day for staff. Please click [here](#) for the FCS 2025-2026 School Calendar.

[Teacher of the Year and Professional of the Year Nominations](#)

Barnwell is fortunate to have a multitude of great teachers and staff members on our team. To celebrate the talents of these awesome staff members, each year Fulton County honors a Teacher of the Year and Professional of the Year from each school. To help us with this process, we would like to include our school community in the nomination process of our candidates.

Please take a moment to complete [this form](#) to nominate your student's favorite teacher and professional of the year and tell us why they should be selected. Nominations will close at 3:00 PM, Friday, February 6th.

[Barnwell's SGC Needs You!](#)

Barnwell has **one parent/guardian SGC position** open for election this upcoming school year. If you have a child that will attend Barnwell for at least two consecutive years, you are eligible to run for election.

Our School Governance Council (SGC) plays a critical role in the success of our school. The SGC works with school leadership and the community to help determine the long-term direction of the school, participates in the approval of the school budget, designs innovative solutions to increase academic achievement, and serves as school ambassadors to the local community.

The candidate declaration period is now open and ends Friday, March 27th with elections being held April 22nd -April 29th. If you are interested in running for a position on SGC, click [here](#) for a candidate guide and/declaration form. For specific information about Barnwell's SGC, feel free to contact me at Benning@fultonschools.org.

[Spring Individual and Class Pictures – Tuesday, February 24th](#)

Mark your calendars! Students will take Spring pictures on **Tuesday, February 24th**. Order forms and flyers will be sent home next week with your student. Order now for early Picture Day pricing at mylifetouch.com using **Picture Day ID: EVTCWHBKX**

Please click [here](#) to Volunteer on Picture Day.

[Pre-K Lottery and Registration Information](#)

The application window for the 2026-2027 Pre-Kindergarten Lottery is now open until **11:59 PM, Tuesday, March 3, 2026.**

Individual school lotteries will be conducted March 23rd through March 25th, with schools notifying parents of results by the end of the day on March 27, 2026.

Eligibility:

- Only students who are 4 years old at 11:59 PM on 9/1/26 **AND**
- Only students who reside in the FCS school district are eligible to attend an FCS Pre-K program.

Please click [here](#) for the English Flyer and [here](#) for the Spanish Flyer.

[Valentine's Day Reminders](#)

As Valentine's Day approaches, it is very tempting to send in treats. Your child's classroom teacher will communicate what the class will be doing for a Valentine's Day exchange if they have not done so already. We are asking that no food be sent in with your child in alignment with the district's request below:

*It is important to ensure that all homemade candy, desserts, baked goods, or other edible items **are not** sold or distributed during school hours. Students may only bring store bought, pre-packaged treats and candies. Please know that taking this measure will help us maintain a safe environment for all students, especially for students with food allergies, etc.*

You can help us protect your student(s) by requesting that they not eat anything given to them by another person, anything that they have not brought from your home, or anything not in its original sealed package without parent permission. Thank you for your continued partnership in keeping all our students safe at school!

[Spring Save the Date Events](#)

We are excited to announce two wonderful upcoming spring events to showcase the incredible creativity of our students!

Annual Spring Chorus Musical

Join us for an evening of music, talent, and joy as our chorus students take the stage for their spring musical. More details will be shared soon—mark your calendars!

Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2026

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Barnwell Cafeteria

Masterpiece in the Making Art Showcase

Come celebrate the artistic brilliance of our students at this year's art showcase! We are excited to showcase the hard work and creativity of our students. Artwork will be on full display and available for purchase. We can't wait for you to experience it. Click [here](#) to view our Save the Date! More details to come.

Date: Wednesday, March 18, 2026

Time: 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM (Student showcase time based on last name; see flyer)

Location: Barnwell Cafeteria

Art Showcase Volunteers Needed:

To help make our art showcase a success, we are looking for volunteers. If you're able to support Ms. Pate with setup, organization, or day-of assistance, please click [here](#) to see how you can help. Your time and support mean so much!

Thank you for continuing to uplift our students and school community. We look forward to celebrating together this spring!

[PTO Spirit Wear Orders](#)

All sweatshirt pre-orders were delivered this week to your students. If you did not receive your order or have any questions, please contact the PTO at info@barnwellpta.org

[Staff Appreciation Week](#)

Spring is in the air, and it's time to shower our amazing Barnwell staff with a little extra sunshine because we **COULDN'T HAVE PICKED A BETTER TEAM!** During Staff Appreciation Week, we're setting up a *market* full of treats, meals, gifts, and fun surprises to help our teachers and staff feel rooted in love and appreciation.

You can help us **plant seeds of kindness** by making a donation through [Membership Toolkit](#) where every dollar helps us *grow something* special — from delicious lunches to thoughtful goodies that will make their week blossom OR you can check out all of the volunteer opportunities [here](#) and sign up to be hands on in showering our amazing staff with gratitude throughout the week! Please click [here](#) for more information.

See our staff lounge wish list for other donation ideas:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/167X2LSJ4Q374/ref=cm_go_nav_hz

Let's come together and **make their days bouquet-ful and bright.** Thank you in advance for helping our staff feel appreciated!

Recurring School and Community News

[Innovation Academy Stem Night—February 13th](#)

Innovation Academy is offering a STEM Camp for students in grades 3 through 5. The camp offers hands-on experiences in IT, Engineering, and Health Science, giving students the chance to code, build prototypes, and explore cutting-edge health technologies. Please click here for more information: [STEM Camp Flyer 2026](#)

[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
Son + One Glow Party	2/6	6:00 PM-8:00 PM	Cafeteria
Papa John's Spirit Night	2/9- 2/12	4:00 PM-Close	Papa John's
SGC Meeting	2/10	3:00 PM-4:00 PM	Adm Conf Room
Teacher Workday	2/16	No School Students	-----
Professional Dev Day	2/17	No School Students	-----
All Pro Dad's Breakfast	2/20	6:45 AM-7:30 AM	Cafeteria
Spring & Class Pictures	2/24	School Day	Barnwell
PTO Board Meeting	2/27	7:30 AM-9:00 AM	Adm Conf Room
Staff Appreciation Week	3/2-3/6	School Day	-----
Science Olympiad Competition	3/7	8:00 AM-4:00 PM	Riverwood High School
Humane Society Donations	3/9- 3/13	School Day	-----
Chorus Concert-Parents	3/10	6:00 PM-7:30 PM	Cafeteria
Date w/Your Daughter Dance	3/13	6:00 PM-8:00 PM	Cafeteria
Barnwell Art Showcase	3/18	5:00 PM-7:00 PM	Cafeteria
All Pro Dad's Breakfast	3/20	6:45 AM-7:30 AM	Cafeteria
STEAM Week	3/23- 3/27	School Day	Classrooms

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](#)

[25-26 Lunch Schedule](#)

Takisha Benning
Principal