



# Alpharetta Elementary Eagle Wings



*Soaring with Alpharetta Attitude - Ready, Respectful, Responsible*

*Patricia Reed—Principal*

*Andy Allison - Assistant Principal*

**May We Help?  
Feel Free to Call Us  
770-740-7015**

- CST**  
Michele McInnish Ext. 135
- Counselor**  
Amanda Fischer Ext. 128
- IST**  
Mary Natelli Ext. 125  
Sheila Connell Ext. 131
- Cafeteria Manager**  
Vickye Monger Ext. 160
- Data Clerk**  
Lisa Hawks Ext. 132
- Clinic**  
Peggy Lloyd Ext. 134
- Media Specialist**  
Ann Schaub Ext. 150
- Principal's Secretary/Bookkeeper**  
Pam Ferguson Ext. 127



**Volunteers Needed for Vision & Hearing Screening**

We need your help for our annual hearing and vision screening. This is a valuable and much appreciated service for our students. The screening will be in the Media Center on Wednesday morning, October 1<sup>st</sup> from 7:45 until 1:00. After a brief training, you are sure to enjoy screening our 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. To volunteer and for answers to your questions, contact Sandy Rogalski at 770-619-0214 or [sandmanrogalski@yahoo.com](mailto:sandmanrogalski@yahoo.com) or Michelle Gordon at 770-772-7336 or [smichellegordon@hotmail.com](mailto:smichellegordon@hotmail.com).

*From:  
The Principal's Desk*

**Great Things Are Happening!**

Where do I begin to tell about the many great things happening in our school community? Well let's start with a terrific family event – Chick-fil-A Night this past Tuesday. Before I even entered the restaurant, I knew this was the place to be! The parking lot was full, cars were wrapped around three sides of the building waiting for take-out but the real happening place was **inside!** Happy families and school staff packed the restaurant with children having fun getting tattoos, making ice cream sundaes, spinning the famous "Wheel of Chick-fil-A" **and** getting balloon structures from the balloon lady. It was like a huge party on a school night! A big thank you goes to the entire school community and Barbara Rocha of Chick-fil-A for making this such a successful event for us all. Don't forget to mark your calendar now for the next Chick-fil-A Night on Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>.

Not quite as exciting but every bit as important and successful was our first Early Release Day of the year. Teachers not only became better prepared for a very important test, the ITBS (Iowa Test of Basic Skills), but became more knowledgeable about this fall's new curriculum and some new technology resources. It is so very difficult for our staff to stay on top of all the curriculum and technology changes that have been implemented these past few years. I cannot begin to tell you how much the entire staff appreciates your support and understanding in the value of staff development on Early Release Days. Hopefully, you were rewarded too with some quality time with your child or at least your child enjoyed some extra time with other family members and/or friends this past Wednesday.

Now, for some exciting news from our neighbor, Milton High School - congratulations are in order for being named a *No Child Left Behind – Blue Ribbon School of Distinction for 2008!* It is the only high school in Georgia to receive this prestigious award from the U.S. Department of Education. We are so proud to have taught those students in their early years and are thrilled to be a part of this community.

**Field Trips**

As you may have heard in the news, the Fulton County School System has discontinued centralized funding for day field trips occurring this school year. Due to unexpected budget cuts at the state level that came after our budget had already been set for this year, our school system has to make difficult decisions to reduce expenses while still supporting in-class instruction and educational opportunities. The costs associated with transportation account for a major portion of field trip expenses. As you can imagine, the rising cost of fuel also greatly increased this budget item.

While we are cutting field trips, AES still has numerous activities planned that will enrich and supplement what students are learning in class. In particular, this year we will have more "in school field trips" such as High Touch – High Tech and Chattahoochee Nature Center. Thanks to the financial support of our PTA, we began our Cultural Arts Program this past Tuesday with Scott Brown and "The History of Drums". We will be able to continue to have a few out-of-school field trips such as: Fulton County North Teaching Museum, the fifth grade to Rock Eagle and the fourth grade to Wahsega.

We hope you understand the need for having to make this decision. We will do everything possible to maximize your child's learning experience and enrich their studies. Once again, thank you for your ongoing support.

**The ITBS is Next Week!**

The Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) will be administered to grades 3 and 5 only on September 22-26. Please be sure students arrive on time, well rested and with glasses, if necessary. The students will be tested on the following subjects: reading, language arts, mathematics, social studies, science and sources of information. The ITBS provides norm-referenced scores that indicate how well a student is performing compared to students across the country who take the same test.

### Up Coming Dates

#### September

22-26 ITBS Testing - 3rd & 5th grades  
23 First Day of Autumn

#### October

1 Hearing and Vision Screening  
2 Picture Day  
3 Fall Carnival - 4:30-8:30  
5-10 Fire Prevention Week  
7 Domino's Pizza Family Night (delivery only)  
8 PTA Executive Board Meeting - 8:30 - Media Center  
10 Conference Day - no School



### 2008 Fall Grounds Work Week



The PTA would like to thank our wonderful parent volunteers, teachers and students for making the 2008 Fall Grounds Work Week a HUGE success!!! 35 classes and volunteers laid 125 bales of pine straw, put out 225 bags of mulch, pruned, weeded and planted flowers to give our school grounds a complete overhaul. It looks fabulous!

We would also like to recognize Lowe's for donating the white landscaping rock for the AES sign at the front of the main sports field. A special Thank You to Doug Green of "Alpharetta Lawn Care" who donated his time last week and has volunteered to maintain the pruning on the grounds during the school year.



We couldn't have done it without you all and we appreciate all of your efforts!



### Countdown to Success



Thank you to those parents and teachers who continue to join AES PTA. We are getting closer to our goal of 100% everyday. If you have not yet joined, please send back your **Red Envelope** with your membership dues today or stop by the front office. Remember you will only get a Directory when they are published next month, if you have joined PTA and purchased one. Also, contributions to the **Enrichment Fund** are always appreciated and are **tax deductible**. At the \$25 "I CAN" Level, \$8 of your contribution goes to the Enrichment Fund. At the \$50 "Awesome Alphie" Level, \$26 of your contribution goes to the Enrichment Fund and at the \$100 "Soaring Eagle" Level \$53 goes to Enrichment. Of course you may make a contribution of any amount to the Enrichment Fund as well. If you have any questions please contact, Leigh Ann Maloney, AES PTA Membership Chair, [LAM63@comcast.net](mailto:LAM63@comcast.net) or 770-664-1132.

### Reflections Program – "WOW!"

Friday Sept.26 is the deadline for the Theme Search for 2010-2011.

If your student would like to create an entry for the Art Reflections Program there is still time. Students have until Monday Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> to create their entry based on this year's theme- "WOW!" Please be sure to read the category specific rules. There will be a box outside of the teachers lounge for your entries.

Copies of the rules and entry forms are available in the Media Center or contact the Art Reflections Committee:

Kerry Maiorino at 770-360-9535 or Claudia Valbuena at 770-346-0846

### Reducing Test Taking Anxiety

Test anxiety is when a student excessively worries about doing well on a test. This can become a major hindrance on test performance and cause extreme nervousness and memory lapses among other symptoms. The following are tips on reducing test taking anxiety.

- Being well prepared for the test is the best way to reduce test taking anxiety.
- Try to maintain a positive attitude.
- Exercising for a few days before the test will help reduce stress.
- Get a good night's sleep before the test.
- Show up to class early so you won't have to worry about being late.
- Stay relaxed, if you begin to get nervous take a few deep breaths slowly to relax yourself and then get back to work.
- Read the directions slowly and carefully.
- Do the simple questions first to help build up your confidence for the harder questions.
- Don't worry about how fast other people finish their test; just concentrate on your own test.
- If you don't know a question skip it for the time being (come back to it later if you have time), and remember that you don't have to always get every question right to do well on the test.
- Focus on the question at hand; don't let your mind wander on other things.
- If you're still experiencing extreme test anxiety after following these tips, seek help from your school counselor.

### Carnival News



Have you signed up to work a shift at the Carnival? It's not too late, as we still have plenty of open shifts. Please pitch in to help make our carnival a huge success. The chili cook off and the cake decorating contest still need participants, so sign up and share your talents with everyone. Get those brain cells pondering what delicious treats you can make for the bake sale too! Thank you to everyone!

Please don't forget to send in something for your class basket. Every donation is greatly appreciated and helps to make the basket raffles so incredibly popular.

Look for pre-sale ticket forms coming home this week and send your order! It is great to get your tickets early and not have the hassle of lining up to buy them at the Carnival. Don't forget to save those Box Tops and bring your completed Hopscotch form to the Carnival: 2 box tops = 6 free tickets!

If you have any questions, please contact your Room Rep., or Trish Nugent at (678)339-9759 or [USNugents@gmail.com](mailto:USNugents@gmail.com)



Be sure to check out our new on-line calendar at [www.calendarwiz.com/alpharettaes](http://www.calendarwiz.com/alpharettaes).

### Box Tops for Education

Are you wondering what to do with the Box Tops you've been collecting? I encourage two things up until the AES Carnival:



Option A: Save Box Tops at home and try to fill up the "hop scotch" sheet sent home last week to win 6 free Carnival tickets. Bring the filled "hopscotch" sheet to a ticket booth at the Carnival and get 6 free tickets instantly. Yes, you may redeem more than one "hop scotch" sheet.

Option B: Save Box Tops at home and bring to Carnival to win one of the Box Top raffle baskets. Box Tops (with names written on back) will be used instead of tickets to win one of two fabulous Box Tops baskets.

The Publix Box Tops basket has over \$50 worth of food and paper products, plus a \$25 gift card for Publix! Thank you to AES partner – Publix on Haynes Bridge Road.

The Kimberly-Clark basket has over 20 items including brands like Kleenex, Scott Tissue, Scott Towels, Cottonelle, Viva, Huggies Diapers, Huggies Wipes, Goodnites, Pullups, and more. Thank you to Julie Fedel for going the extra mile to show her support for AES and getting us this basket!!

The 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for AES to redeem Box Tops is October 31<sup>st</sup> – so we are trying to get as many Box Tops as possible before that date by using Carnival to raise awareness and encourage everyone to get involved.

#### Upcoming Box Top Contest:

After Carnival, there will be a classroom contests. A container will be provided to each classroom, and we will be encouraging the classrooms to compete on how many Box Tops, Campbell's Labels for Education, and Tyson Project A+ labels their class can donate. Stay tuned for details on these contests. The prizes will be awesome for everyone involved!! It's time to get excited about Box Tops!!

Stacey DiMarco – AES Box Top Coordinator

[tsdimarco@comcast.net](mailto:tsdimarco@comcast.net)

### Education Rewards



Last week you should have received your Publix keychain card and Kroger Earning Plus Learning bar code sheet.

Please be diligent about using your Publix key card everytime you shop. Get friends and relatives a card and get them involved shopping at Publix and earning money for our school.

Also, make the extra effort to take the Kroger bar code sheet to the checkout and have AES connected to your Kroger Plus card. If you missed the bar code sent home with your child, you can print the one below and take it into Kroger.



Extra Publix cards and Kroger bar codes sheets are located in the media kiosk outside the front office door. If you need more, please contact me at [tsdimarco@comcast.net](mailto:tsdimarco@comcast.net).