



# 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



**Reminder:**



**For student safety, always be prepared to show ID when you are checking out your student.**

**School-Closed?**

**It's getting to be the time of year for inclement weather. If you have a question whether or not school is closed, please tune to WSB-TV - the official channel for school closings for Fulton County.**

**Parents - Please remember to put your child's name inside coats and jackets.**

**From:  
The Principal's Desk,**

**Happy New Year!** With the holidays past and new resolutions made, let us all recommit ourselves to excellence in education for the year 2009. Since

January is National Reading Month, this is a great opportunity to plan a special time for family reading and share the joy of reading with your child on a regular basis. January is also a great time to recommit yourself to staying involved with your child's education. Some ways you can help your child with his/her studies are:

- Set a regular place and time for homework which is free of distractions.
- Demonstrate your interest by monitoring assignments – look over completed work.
- Provide guidance in helping your child get organized.
- Keep in contact with your child's teacher and work together for your child's success.
- Make sure your child gets enough sleep every night with a regular nightly routine.

With the New Year, we have made a few schedule changes in order to maximize instructional time. Please see the AES website for the most current **Lunch Schedule**. Speaking of lunch, I would like to remind you of a few of our Cafeteria Guidelines. (The complete Student Handbook is available on the AES website for your convenience.)

- Students are prohibited from having *soft drinks*.
- We ask that our parents help teach our students to be ready and responsible by not bringing forgotten items (except eye glasses and medications) to school. However, if you must bring your child's lunch money or sack lunch, please do so by 9:00am as this is the time we will make a delivery to the classrooms.
- We request that parents not bring meals from outside vendors (*fast food* restaurants such as McDonald's or Chick-Fil-A) as it creates anxiety for some who do not have the same opportunity and it competes with our school lunch program. Please do not purchase ice cream for other children
- Parents may join students for lunch but should meet the class outside the cafeteria entrance. **Most importantly**, say good-bye in the cafeteria when the class finishes lunch.

You may choose to have lunch with you child on his/her **birthday**. If you do, please remember the following also from our Student Handbook:

Students will be invited to the front office for recognition on their birthday. Parents need to coordinate with the teacher *in advance* if they plan to drop off in the front office birthday treats (ready to serve) for snack time in the classroom or dessert during lunch time. Parents may assist with the distribution of the treats with the birthday child's classroom only. *Party favors, balloons, and/or flowers are prohibited. No personal birthday party invitations may be distributed at school.*

**AES Spelling Bee Finalists 2008-09**

Great News! After many years, AES is once again enjoying Spelling Bees! In December, the following students won homeroom competitions and will be eligible for the school wide Spelling Bee on January 16<sup>th</sup>:

4<sup>th</sup> Grade

Keys - Caroline Tweedy & Gus Martin  
Gillette - Kiely Gaertner & Courtney Bellamy  
Grizzle - Abbie Carrico & Kaitlyn Pearson  
Spartz - Isabel Mahoney & Patrik Niiranen  
Whitten - Kevin Alcala & Madeline Ganter

5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Brooks - Eleine Frere-Petit & Andrianna Pinckney  
Davis - Ryan Milewski & Jenna Palmieri  
Eineker - Alex Diaz & Elana Shebat  
Haight - Melissa Perez & Luke Ladbrook  
Seawright - Angus Ho & Morgan Sophie

Good luck to all of the above fine spellers and stay tuned for the exciting results.

**Up Coming Dates**



**January**

- 14** Domino's Pizza Family Night (delivery only)
- 16** Report Cards Sent Home  
AES LSAC Meeting - 8:00-9:00am  
Spelling Bee - 9:00am
- 19** Martin Luther King Holiday - No school
- 21** PTA Meeting - 9:00-11:00- Media Center
- 22** FCBOE Board Meeting - 6:30-8:30
- 23** Chick-fil-A Family Night - 5:00-8:00  
Teacher Times:  
4:30-5:30 – Brenda Bradley, Tracy Stephens, Kelly Combes, Jen Rice, Margaret Lawrence, Susan Hallam  
5:30-6:30 – Janelle Wardrop, Trish Urquhart, Carol Accurso  
6:30-7:30 – Kathy Bloom, Lauren Ray, Pam Lane
- 26-30** Bear Fair

**February**

- 2** Ground Hog Day
- 6** Bingo Night - 5:00-9:00pm
- 7** YMCA Father Daughter Dance
- 11** PTA Executive Board Meeting - 8:30-10:30am
- 13** 5th Grade Chorus to Dogwood Forest for Heart Bingo
- 14** Valentine's Day
- 16** President's Day - NO School
- 17** Chick-fil-A Family Night - 5:00-8:00 pm  
Teacher Times: **4:30-5:30** - Linda Malo, Bobbie Halverson, Helen Ryan, Sally McCarthy, Betty Feehan, Patty Hambrick; **5:30-6:30** - Terrisa Warren, Ashley Dearcop, Julia Stromayer, Candi Michaelis ; **6:30 - 7:30** - Cindy Fleischer, Gail Heller, Sue Grabau
- 18-20** Jump Rope for Heart
- 19** FCBOE Board Meeting - 6:30-8:30 pm - Dunwoody Springs
- 20** AES LSAC Meeting - 8:00-9:30 am

**Bingo Night Prize Patrol is looking for extra holiday gifts!**

Do you have "extra" presents from a holiday gift exchange? Did your kids receive any toys that didn't even get a second glance? Please feel free to unload your "extra" holiday gifts on the Bingo Prize Patrol! New or gently used gifts are welcome. We promise to find them a good home when we host our annual Bingo Night on Friday, February 6th. You can place your donated Bingo Prizes in a donation bin by the front office. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer for Bingo Night please email Donna Augello at [donna.augello@harrynorman.com](mailto:donna.augello@harrynorman.com) or Tracey Gaertner at [traceynelt@bellsouth.net](mailto:traceynelt@bellsouth.net) or 404-918-7877.



**Fulton County Schools Homework Hotline** – This service is free and available to all students. The phone number is 404-843-7700. Live help is available to students Monday – Thursday 5:00 pm -8:00 pm.

**Congratulations to William dos Santos**

His Reflections Theme Search entry entitled "Nature" has been chosen as one of Georgia's five entries forwarded to the National PTA for judging. The winner will be selected by the end of January 2009. Good luck, William.

**'Letters to the Chief' Program at Alpharetta Elementary**



They may not be eighteen, but students at Alpharetta Elementary School are making their voices heard. Students are working diligently to deliver their words of wisdom to President-elect Obama. What could possibly be of concern to a bunch of ten and eleven year olds? Letters advise the president-elect on the environment, taxes, economy, foreign relations, and of course education.

"I really want to see special education students receive free scholarships for education. You could get some of the money from taxes," explains Reilly Mesaros.

"I think everybody needs a home, even the poor," writes fifth grader Anna Davalos.



Students are participating in order to become part of history and reflect upon the times in which they live. The handwritten letters are going to be delivered to the White House on National Handwriting Day, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, three days after Obama takes office.

**Winter Weather and School Closings**



As we all know, winter is officially here, so please send your children to school with hats, gloves/mittens and warm jackets on cold days. Decisions regarding indoor or outdoor recess are made daily depending on the temperature and wind chill factor. If at all possible, we will have outdoor recess.

There may also be some school cancellations due to the weather. The decision is made by 6 a.m., except in the situations when inclement weather may force school closings during the school day, so that radio (750 AM, 96.5 FM, et al.) and TV stations (Ch. 2, 5, 11, 46) can be notified. The information will also be posted to the school system's website as soon as possible – [www.fultonschools.org](http://www.fultonschools.org).

Please resist calling the school on these days. We can only confirm what is being broadcast on the radio/TV. As you can imagine, the phone rings continually on these days making it almost impossible for anyone to get through to us.

**What if school closes during the day?**

Make sure your child's teacher has a written explanation on file of what the student should do in the event that school closes during the day. If school closes during the day, all students will be sent home on their regular bus or daycare van unless other directions are on file. School staff cannot accept phoned-in directions.



**Domino's Pizza Family Night**  
January 14th - 5pm-9pm  
770-664-9508



Make dinner easy - call Domino's for delivery. Domino's will donate 20% of sales to the school. Tell them Alpharetta Elementary sent you!