



Alpharetta Elementary Eagle Wings



Soaring with Alpharetta Attitude - Ready, Respectful, Responsible

Patricia Reed—Principal

Andy Allison - Assistant Principal

From:
The Principal's Desk

**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



Attention Parents
Students will not be called from the classroom for dismissal after 2:00 pm. Students will need to be picked up before 2:00 or in the car-pool line .

This policy is stated in the Student Handbook.

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



192 Mayfield Road
Alpharetta, GA 30009

Preparing for Standardized Tests...All Year Long

With the ITBS for our 3rd and 5th graders just a week away, this is both an informative and timely article written by Kathleen Bukowski, one of our AES parents

CRCT, ITBS, SAT, ACT....acronyms that all parents and students dread.

No matter your stance on the benefits or drawbacks of standardized testing, these evaluative tools have become the heart of our education system. The good news, however, is that parents and teachers can provide students with strategies and hints to help reduce the anxiety that accompanies standardized testing. As a teacher and parent, I have found that being familiar with test language and protocol tends to reassure even the most reluctant test taker.

Tip One: Critically Read the Directions

Teach children to be critical readers of more than just the test question; teach children to spend time reading directions. As teachers, practice this daily with homework and class work activities. Highlighters can be a student's best friend for understanding the language of tests: teach students to highlight or underline the key words in directions and questions.

Tip Two: Learn the Structure and Language

Teachers and parents can preview tests online or in practice books to help familiarize themselves with question and direction text structure. Once you know the words and phrases that are commonly used, you can teach these skills discretely and in the context of your everyday lessons.

Tip Three: Practice Time Constraints

All too often students are unfamiliar with the pressure of completing tasks within a structured time frame. In the classroom, begin practicing this process early. This can be done once or twice a week with timed fact tests or writing assignments. Be sure to then discuss with students how to budget their time as this is not an innate skill for many; students will need your guidance and modeling. Parents, you can tackle this at home with homework and your kitchen timer. Take time to know your child and how effectively he or she works.

Tip Four: Practice the "Bubble" Format

Finally, teach students how to track their answers in a test by having them complete "bubble" answer activities long before test day. Teaching young children to keep track of the answer sheet and question simultaneously is imperative, as this can be one of the most difficult tasks for young test takers. Give them strategies for how to scan the test prior to working and how to go back and check to make sure that they have answered all the questions.

As a professional, I do believe that there seems to be a propensity toward spending too much time on test preparation, but it can be done seamlessly throughout the year so that children do not feel overwhelmed at the prospect of taking these often-tedious tests. With early practice, students can become test savvy and comfortable with the process.

About the Author: Kathleen Bukowski is the Learning Lab Coordinator at a local high school in Alpharetta. With degrees in learning disabilities education, remedial reading and language arts, she has worked closely with students in the area of study skills for 17 years.

We want to thank Kathleen for this wonderful article for Eagle Wings.

"Thank You" to Our Great Volunteers!

Our 1st, 3rd, and 5th grade students had their vision and hearing screened on Wednesday. It was completed efficiently and in record breaking time due to a coordination of efforts of students, parents and teachers. Special thanks go to Michelle Gordon and Molly Mathis for your leadership and working this event. Because of all of your efforts, our AES children will benefit. You are a part of what makes our school so great!

A large sum of money was found in the parking lot on Friday, August 21st, please contact the office with inquiries.

Mark Your Calendar



September

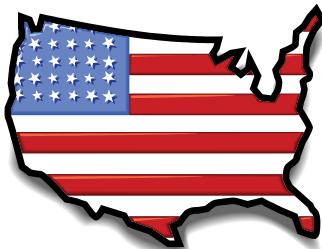
- 13 School Grounds Cleanup Day - 9:00am-12:00pm
- 14-18 3rd Grade Parents Come to Lunch Week
- 15 Katie Reeves Community Meeting - Milton HS - 7:00pm-8:30pm
- 16 Early Release Day - Students released at 11:20am
- 17 Constitution Day
FCBOE Board Meeting - Dunwoody Springs - 6:30pm-8:30pm
- 21-25 4th Grade Parents Come to Lunch Week
- 21-25 ITBS
- 28-Oct. 2 5th Grade Parents Come to Lunch Week

FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEAL BENEFITS

To continue free or reduced price meal benefits for students each household must complete a new application each year. Free and Reduced Meal Benefits will end on September 21, 2009, if the household has not reapplied for SY 2009-2010. If there is an interruption in benefits or the household does not reapply, the household is responsible for payment of meals until the Free and Reduced Application is approved. To help assure continuation of benefits, the household must have a new application turned in to the school cafeteria manager before September 16, 2009. Be sure to list all the students in the household on the application. Keep in mind, the application may take up to 10-days to process. If you have any questions, please call the Fulton County School Nutrition Program - Meal Eligibility Desk at (404)305-2220.

AES Fall Carnival

The Carnival countdown has begun, It's only 3 weeks until the fun! Please give an hour of your time, No training needed, you'll be fine. Call your Room Rep. today to volunteer, Add your name to the list and she will cheer. Decorating cakes might make you smile, Perhaps some Chili is more your style? Whatever you do, don't hesitate, It's for the kids, so make it a date!



Friday, October 2nd, 4:30 – 8:00pm.

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

THANKS for your support during the Sally Foster PTA Fundraiser! If you have not already returned your sales orders, please return them Monday. A list of 50 Club members, raffle winners, and top sellers will be announced soon.

THANKS again, from the PTA, for contributing to our Great Success!!

Grounds Day

Sunday, September 13th, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM:

Help us to clean up the school grounds! Bring your gloves, shovels, pruning shears and rakes. Help us to prune bushes and small trees, weed, spread some new mulch, and other landscaping work. Come for the whole time or as long as you can. The entire family is welcome. To volunteer please contact:

Grounds Chair: Kim Mackenzie mackenziekb@gmail.com

Dad's Club Chair: John Foster jhf725@adelphia.net



5th Grade Corner

Reminder

Rock Eagle registration packets are due September 18th. If you are a chaperone, your packets are also due.

Hope to see you tonight at 6:00pm at the 5th Grade Movie Night. It will be a fun night. Don't forget to wear your T-shirts to show your 5th grade pride!

A huge thank you to parents that donated baked items for our concession stand. Proceeds will go toward our Legacy Fund.



Southern Elite Gymnastics Academy offers After School Care pick up service at your school. Your child will enjoy gymnastics/tumbling taught daily by safety certified and background checked coaches. Homework instruction is the best! We have extended After School Care, and can help with Early Release Days. Get fit while having fun and learning at SEGA's iSpY or Achievers!

Reach us at: Segagymnastics.com/770-552-0700x2/4680 Morton Rd, Alpharetta, GA

Be sure to check out our on-line calendar at www.fultonschools.org/school/alpharetta as well as the new PTA website at <http://alpharettaelementarypta.org/>