



# 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.



What can I say? You **Science in Motion** Parents started a great new program at AES! I love seeing and hearing the animated students tell me ALL about the great experiments you have brought into their classrooms! They can hardly wait to take turns as each student wants to be the one to say how "exciting", "fun", "cool", "awesome", (you get the idea), the experiment was and they can't wait for you to do some more experiments with them.

Thank you so much to our Science in Motion moms and dads for coming into our classrooms and proving to our students that science is all around them and how much fun learning can be. You truly exemplified the Ancient Chinese Proverb: **Tell me, I forget. Show me, I remember. Involve me, I understand.**

A special round of applause is in order for **Shawn Hampton**. Under her leadership, she has worked with teachers in determining which experiments to do, simplified instructions for parents to use, gathered materials, trained parents, and who knows how much else she has done to ensure the success of our Science in Motion Program. If being involved in an exciting, much appreciated program sounds like fun to you or if you can provide Shawn with assistance, please email Shawn at [evanmarie@bellsouth.net](mailto:evanmarie@bellsouth.net) or give her a call at 770-442-6629. I am sure she could use the help.

This week (October 23-31) Alpharetta Elementary joined with the rest of our nation in showing our commitment and unity in the promotion of a healthy drug-free life style by recognizing **Red Ribbon Week**. Did you know that it is the oldest and largest drug prevention campaign in the country? With a theme of "Drugs Bug Me", the message of the week was: you have a choice to live a drug free life. Thank you to our Health and Safety moms, Molly Mathis and Michelle Gordon, for assisting our counselor, Amanda Fischer, and her counseling intern, Christina Bender, for helping this be a successful initiative.

Have a happy and safe Halloween weekend!



Special thanks to **3<sup>rd</sup> grade Brownie troop #29325**, who volunteered with parents to finish the weeding, pruning and mulching in the Special Needs garden last weekend. It looks great!

**WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST NO EDIBLE BIRTHDAY TREATS/GOODIES BE DISTRIBUTED AT SCHOOL.** As always, the following are prohibited: party favors, balloons, flowers, and distributing party invitations. This is stated in the Student Handbook.



192 Mayfield Road  
Alpharetta, GA 30009



**Mark Your Calendar**



**November**

- 4 PTA Executive Board Meeting—8:30-10:30 - Conference Room
- 6 School Spirit Day  
Girl Scouts Soup & Song—6:00-8:00—cafeteria
- 11 LSAC Cluster Meeting—9:00-11:00
- 12-13 5th Grade to Rock Eagle
- 16-20 Canned Food Drive
- 16-24 Book Fair
- 17 Kate Reeves' Community Meeting—Creek View ES—9:30-11:30  
Book Club Meetings during lunch  
4th Gr. Chorus Performance—Publix at Haynes Bridge—4:00-5:00
- 18 Early Release Day
- 19 Story Book Night/Book Fair—4:00-7:00  
FCBOE Board Meeting—Dunwoody Springs—6:30-8:30
- 23 Invite Grandparents to Lunch with PK/K, 2 & 4
- 24 Invite Grandparents to Lunch with 1, 3 & 5
- 25-27 Thanksgiving Holidays
- 30 Holiday Charity Donation Drive

**December**

- 1-11 Holiday Charity Donation Drive

**Board of Education Approves 2010-2011 Calendar**



After several months of reviewing different options and receiving community input, the Fulton County Board of Education approved a 177-day calendar for the 2010-11 school year. The school year will begin on August 23, 2010 and end May 27, 2011.

The calendar format is a change from previous years when state law mandated that students must attend school for 180 days. New guidelines allow school systems to deviate from the 180-day calendar, provided there is no reduction in instructional time.

While the school year will be three days shorter, students actually will spend 8.85 more hours in class annually as a result of 10 minutes of added instructional time per school day. The calendar also adds more than 10 hours of classroom time for students due to the elimination of five half-day early release days when school dismissed early so that teachers could receive curriculum training. Instead of the early release days, staff will receive professional learning opportunities prior to the start of the school year as well as throughout the year on scheduled work days.

The 177-day calendar is anticipated to save \$1.1 million each year due to reduced expenses in transportation and facility operations as well as personnel costs associated with positions that work with students on school days.

Review the approved 2010-2011 calendar at [www.fultonschools.org](http://www.fultonschools.org).



**Calling all Cooks! Enter the AES Healthy Recipe Challenge for a chance to win a \$50 Whole Foods Gift Card or Free Salud Cooking Class!**

**Contest Details:**

Submit your family's favorite **healthy breakfast or after-school snack** recipe and be automatically entered for a chance to win a Whole Foods gift certificate or free cooking class.

What constitutes a "healthy" recipe? Entries should include at least 2 of the major food groups (grains, vegetables, fruit, dairy or meat/beans). They must also be lower in fat, sugar or salt compared to a typical recipe. (Ideally they should contain a balance of complex carbohydrates, protein, healthy fat, fiber and vitamins/minerals). And of course, taste great!

The contest is open to all parents, faculty and students. More than one entry per person is permitted.

Entries can be submitted one of 2 ways:

- Email to [molly.mathis@alpharettaelementarypta.org](mailto:molly.mathis@alpharettaelementarypta.org)
- Hardcopy to Molly Mathis' Health/Wellness Committee PTA mailbox (located across the hall from the front office, next to the conference rooms).

Three winners will be randomly selected from the entries and will receive either a \$50 Whole Foods gift card or Free Whole Foods Salud Cooking Class.

Select entries will also be spotlighted on the Alpharetta Elementary PTA website - [www.alpharettaelementarypta.org](http://www.alpharettaelementarypta.org).

**Contest Deadline:**

Entries must be received no later than **Friday, November 13.**

Bon appétit!

**5th GRADE CORNER**



Reminder: Rock Eagle Chaperone Meeting  
Wednesday, November 4th  
6:00 - 6:45 p.m. Eagle Rock Cafe

\* Rock Eagle packing list may be found on the Alpharetta Elementary PTA website.

\*If you are sending medication with your child, please remember to turn in your medication and the accompanying form to Mrs. Peggy Lloyd on or before November 4th.

Please be considerate of this deadline so Mrs. Lloyd had adequate time to process all medications.

\*If you are in need of appropriate outerwear clothing or sleeping bags, etc...please notify your child's teacher. We want to make sure that all students are adequately prepared for cooler temperatures and inclement weather.

Watch for further details about our Rock Eagle departure as our countdown continues!





Less traffic. Cleaner air.

**The Truth  
About Idling  
from the  
Clean Air  
Campaign**

Each day, Americans waste approximately 3.8 million gallons of gasoline by voluntarily idling their cars. An engine that idles for 10 minutes yields 90 grams of pollutants like carbon dioxide. Plus auto industry experts now say that idling is bad for your car.

Let's dispel some common myths about idling:

**Myth #2: Idling is good for your engine.**

**Reality:** Excessive idling can actually damage your engine components, including cylinders, spark plugs and exhaust systems. Fuel is only partially combusted when idling because an engine does not operate at its peak temperature. This leads to the build up of fuel residues on cylinder walls that can damage engine components and increase fuel consumption.

*Sally Foster* Most Sally Foster orders were picked up during the scheduled time last weekend. If you are still missing your Sally Foster catalog order, please check your child's classroom.

Corrections of orders and additional orders must be requested by Monday, November 2. Contact Susan Hanna ([Shannas@att.net](mailto:Shannas@att.net))

Thanks for supporting the PTA Fundraiser.

**Bulky Trash Day and Computer and Electronics  
Recycling Collection  
Residents in Alpharetta, Roswell and Milton  
November 7, 2009  
8:00am – 2:00pm only  
1810 Hembree Road**

For more information please check the City of Alpharetta website at [www.alpharetta.ga.us](http://www.alpharetta.ga.us), or Terry Porter at 678.297.6200 or [tporter@alpharetta.ga.us](mailto:tporter@alpharetta.ga.us)

**Sensitive Document Shredding Event  
November 14, 2009  
10:00am to noon  
5 Box Maximum**

Eco Shredding and Starbucks at Alpharetta Crossing are joining the City of Alpharetta to offer residents and small businesses an opportunity to safely discard confidential documents using a mobile, on-site shredding truck.

EcoShredding will be at the Alpharetta Crossing Center, 11770 Haynes Bridge Road (intersection of Haynes Bridge Road and Old Milton Parkway) from 10:00am to noon on November 14, 2009 only.

Your documents will be shredded as you watch. The shredded material will then be recycled. There is no need to remove staples or clips but larger metal pieces are not acceptable.



**AES - 2009-2010 SCHOOL DIRECTORIES ARE OUT!**



The PTA is excited to announce that the Alpharetta Elementary School Directories were delivered to classrooms this week. If you purchased one, we hope you had the opportunity to open it up and take a peek. **Congratulations to Madeline Ganter who won the 5th grade contest, "Create the Cover" for our directory this year.** It is wonderful! The PTA was also able to add a few more pieces of artwork to the directory so enjoy those as well. Have you seen Alpie?

Please note our Partners in Education (**PIE**) sponsor logos in the front cover of the directory. These companies are very important to AES. They work closely with our school and the PTA to make many of our events and programs affordable through donations of goods and services. Their ad can also be found under the PIE tab. Please keep them in mind when you are out and about.

Also, take a look at our Business Section in the back of the directory. These companies make a donation to our school in hopes you might check them out if you are in need of their services and most are just minutes away from our school. A special thank you to **IMPRESSION SMART PRINTING COMPANY** for always making our directories affordable to print and looking good.

Additional directories are available for purchase by PTA members in the office for \$5.00 if you need an extra one for your car or office. If you aren't a PTA member yet, please contact Lynda Crawford and Susan Haviland and they will make sure you get your copy.

Special thanks to PTA members, Dianna and David Bicknell, for their hard work in creating our directory this year as well as our fabulous office staff for assistance with proof reading.

Kathy Aussin  
AES PTA

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

**Notable News from KnowledgePoints**

Your Partner in Education

***Bringing the Writing Home... Without the Frustration! (cont.)***

After your child has written a rough draft (just getting his/her ideas down on paper), he must go back and look over it again to see if he can make it better. This is called *Revision* and our 3<sup>rd</sup> step in the writing process.

**Step 3: Revision** - Most kids think this is when they check for spelling, punctuation, and grammatical errors. Revision is not this step! It is about making his initial ideas better. Revision is the one step kids try to avoid, but it is the one step that makes the difference between a C and an A paper!

After he rereads his first draft, he should ask himself: Does it make sense? Have I written down all I wanted to say? Can I use more descriptive or interesting words? Does my paper flow? Is there a clear beginning/middle/end? Is what I wrote interesting enough to draw the reader in and keep their attention? A thesaurus is a valuable tool at this point to provide stronger word choices. A scoring rubric will further help with this process. Ask your teacher for the type of scoring rubric they use in class.

This step can take almost as long as the rough draft, so don't over-kill it. Your child may need a break before moving onto the next step - **editing**, which we will discuss next time.

