

# Shark Bytes

**Shakerag Elementary**  
Christine Lemerond, Principal  
Samantha Weaver, Assistant Principal

**February 9, 2024**

Follow us on Twitter: [@ShakeragShark](https://twitter.com/ShakeragShark)

Visit our website: [www.shakeragelementary.com](http://www.shakeragelementary.com)

## Shark Tales:

### **Great Job Sharks! THANK YOU for being HERE!!!**

Fulton County Schools is working hard to express the importance of attending school and getting our attendance rates back up to prepandemic levels. Shakerag Elementary School was acknowledged as an **Exceptional Attendance Achievement** school in the Mid-Year Assessment for having a student satisfactory attendance rate of 95%! ☆👏☆ Thank you for helping us achieve our goal and continuing to support our students in ensuring they are present and ready to learn each day. This acknowledgement goes out to all of our wonderful families. We truly appreciate your partnership!



### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade Sandwich Project**

Last week, several of our 5<sup>th</sup> graders participated in a service project where they donated and then assembled sandwiches for individuals in need. Thank you to Katina Stahl, Esther Ono, Ximena Arreaza, Madeline Ruffin-Thomas, Rachael Villaran, Kristin McCabe, VP of the FCS School Board, our fabulous fifth-grade teachers, and all of the staff members who volunteered and helped make this event possible. A special thank you to Brittany Burnett for organizing and coordinating all of the details. It was an amazing experience for all.

### **Golden Spoon Winners**

Every month our Sharks work hard at showing leadership, kindness, and respect in the cafeteria by keeping the noise level low and cleaning up after themselves. Classes are rewarded for their efforts by earning a star at the end of their lunch period. The classes with the most stars at the end of the month for each grade level win the Golden Spoon Award.

The Golden Spoon winners for January are:

Pre-K – Ms. Jain

K – Ms. Fike, Ms. O'Connor, Ms. Spieth

1 – Ms. Patel, Ms. Sherman, and Ms. Mayoros

2 – Ms. Bridges, Ms. Corney, and Ms. Sudeth

3 – Ms. Christiansen, Ms. Ely, and Ms. Schear

4 – Ms. Brown and Ms. Greene

5 – Ms. Searcy, Ms. Dowling, Ms. Burnett, Mr. Barlow

We have challenged each grade level this month to see if ALL classes can tie and earn a golden spoon. We know they can do it!

## A Message from the Shakerag PTO:

### **Shakerag School Dance – TONIGHT!**

The school Dance is here! Come tonight and celebrate this year's theme Around the World! There will be a professional DJ, games, refreshments, and loads of fun! Come dressed up and represent any culture around the world! Please, no toy weapons. Session 1 Will be from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (Grades PreK – 2) and Session 2 will be from 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. (Grades 3-5). Online ticket sales are closed, but you can buy tickets at the door! **TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASED ON CAPACITY. THIS IS NOT A DROP OFF EVENT. ONE ADULT PER FAMILY REQUIRED FOR ENTRY. STUDENTS SHOULD NOT BRING CELL PHONES.** For more information, please contact Sonam Dewan at [dewan.sonam@gmail.com](mailto:dewan.sonam@gmail.com) or Sarah Chu at [cigar1121@hotmail.com](mailto:cigar1121@hotmail.com).

### **February 12 - 16 is Teacher Appreciation Week!**

The PTO would like to spread the word....Please be sure your teachers feel extra special this week by letting them know how much you appreciate them!

**Monday, February 12** - Give your teachers an extra HUG

**Tuesday, February 13** - Compliment your teachers today

**Wednesday, February 14** - Bring a homemade CARD or LETTER for your teacher today

**Thursday, February 15** - Give your teachers an extra SMILE

**Friday, February 16** - Bring your teachers a flower

Not sure what to do? Here are some ideas: supplies for the classroom or playground, extra hugs, a book for the class library, a small gift or gift card chosen by your child. Don't forget your special area teachers!

### **Artist Day- We need your help!**

Shakerag's annual Artist Day needs your help! This year we are hoping to learn more about art and culture from our very own school family! To do this, we are looking for volunteers!

On March 29, we will be hosting an Artist and Culture Day at Shakerag. Students will have an opportunity to travel around the globe and learn about various forms of art and culture, but we need your help to do that! Do you paint, dance, sing or play a

musical instrument? Would you like to showcase some art or activity from your culture? If so, we'd love to have you coordinate an activity with like-minded artists and share your talent with our students! Please reach out to the Artist and Culture Day chair Jen She at [jen@fwdtalent.com](mailto:jen@fwdtalent.com) if you're interested.

## A Message from the School Governance Council (SGC):

### **School Governance Council Meeting**

We invite you to visit our School Governance Council (SGC) website, which can be accessed by clicking [here](#) or via our school website (click [here](#)) under the 'ABOUT' drop-down menu. Our latest Strategic Plan as well as other relevant SGC information is posted to this site for your convenience. Our next SGC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 14 at 8:00 a.m.

### **School Governance Council Elections**

It's that time of year to declare your candidacy to serve on the School Governance Council. We will have one teacher elected position and one parent elected position opening up on the council for next year. If you, or someone you know, is interested in serving, please refer to the Charter System website for additional details, or please see below:

### **Spring Parent/Teacher Elections**

The window for parents and teachers to declare candidacy for their school's SGC opened on **February 5**. During this time, individuals interested in serving a 2-year term (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026) will need to complete a Candidate Declaration Form which will be available on the [Charter System Website](#). The declaration window will close on **March 29, 2024**. Interested parents and teachers can click [here](#) to access requirements for candidacy.

## A Message from Fulton County:

### **Important District Reminders and Updates for Valentine's Day**

As Valentine's Day approaches, it is very tempting to send in treats. Your child's classroom teacher will be communicating what their classroom 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:

As we approach Valentine's Day, it is important to ensure that all homemade candy, desserts, baked goods, or other edible items **are not** to be sold or distributed during school hours. Please know that taking this measure will help us maintain a safe environment for all students with 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 of our students safe at school!

### **Pre-Kindergarten Registration for the 2024-2025 School Year**

Registration for the Pre-K Lottery is now open and will end **March 8**. Registration is conducted through the district and the information can be found [here](#). If a parent misses the March 8 deadline, they will be placed at the bottom of the waiting list. The lottery will be held on **March 27 at 8:30 a.m.** It will be recorded and posted on our website. For more information on the lottery process at Shakerag, please visit our website by clicking [here](#).

### **Hardship Transfer Application**

Hardship transfer applications are available on Fulton County's website (click [here](#)) for parents who wish to apply for a 2024-2025 hardship transfer or to renew a current hardship to another Fulton elementary, middle, or high school. The deadline for submitting a transfer application is **February 29, 2024**.

## In the Community:

### **Kristin McCabe's Community Meeting**

Our school board member, Kristin McCabe, will be hosting a community meeting on Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. at Chattahoochee High School (5230 Taylor Road, Johns Creek, GA 30022). All are welcome to join.

### **City of Johns Creek's Lunar New Year Celebration**

Celebrate the Lunar New Year with the Taste of Asia and cultural performances on Saturday, February 10, from 12-4 p.m. at the Fields across from the Atlanta Athletic Club (1930 Bobby Jones Drive). The City of Johns Creek's Lunar New Year celebration is a family-friendly event that embraces cultural diversity in our community. Commonly known as the Spring Festival in East Asia, Lunar New Year commemorates the beginning of a new year on the traditional lunisolar Chinese calendar. Please click [here](#) for more information.

### **Drug Awareness and Prevention Program**

You are invited to attend a fentanyl awareness and drug prevention program on February 15 at 7:00 p.m. at the Studio Theatre at City Springs (1 Galambos Way, Sandy Springs). Please click [here](#) for more information.

**Have a wonderful weekend!**