

# Shark Bytes



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

**March 29, 2024**

Follow us on Twitter: [@ShakeragShark](#)

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

**No School April 1 - 5: Spring Break**

## Shark Tales:

### **Happy Spring Break!**

It is so hard to believe April is already here. Wishing all of our Sharks a safe and relaxing Spring Break! Everyone has worked so hard this year. We are so proud! Get lots of rest so we can return and finish strong!

### **Solar Eclipse – April 8, 2024**

All students received a letter in their Friday folders last week regarding the upcoming solar eclipse on April 8 that is expected to cross our paths between 1:08 p.m. – 4:21 p.m. Keeping safety in mind, Fulton County is providing all students and staff with solar eclipse glasses. During the scheduled eclipse, all students and staff will remain indoors until dismissal. Prior to dismissal, all students and staff will receive a pair of solar eclipse glasses. We will be going over the expectation of wearing the safety glasses outside and the importance of not looking directly at the eclipse without the glasses on as it can cause permanent damage to the retina of the eye.

If you would like to enjoy this experience as a family and view the eclipse outdoors, we ask that you please plan to check your child out prior to 1:00 p.m. Absences and early check-outs on Monday, April 8 will be marked excused.

Prior to Monday, April 8, please review the safety expectations with your child(ren) regarding wearing the solar eclipse glasses while outside during the eclipse window.

For additional details please click [here](#) to read the letter that was included in each child's folder.

### **Volunteer Breakfast and State of the School Address – Thursday, April 11**

If you are one of our many wonderful volunteers, please join us on Thursday, April 11 from 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. in the Media Center for a breakfast in your honor in connection with our State of the School Address and PTO meeting. You can RSVP by clicking [here](#).

### **Science Olympiad**

We would like to send a huge congratulations to all the members of our Science Olympiad team who competed this past Saturday in our regional competition. They put forth their best efforts and showed great sportsmanship. Although our team will not be advancing to the state competition, we placed 7<sup>th</sup> out of 32 teams. This is a huge accomplishment. Thank you so much for all of your hard work! Congratulations to Aidric L., Charlotte P., Emma M., Rehan S., Alaina H., Anirudh A., Anvith M., Nishkam G., Rushank K., Sharvi C., Avisha G., Avya D., Hayden J., Jaiveer Y., Pranav A., Shaaswat S., Vidhi S., and Vihann S. A special thank you to Mrs. Pennywell and Mrs. Christiansen for supporting and leading this amazing program.

### **Artist Day**

Thank you so much to our wonderful PTO and all of the amazing artists and parent volunteers that made this special Artist Day come to life! The students had a blast. An extra special thank you to Jen She, Belinda Ting, Allison Forthun, and Mrs. Weaver for their dedication in organizing this event. We would also like to thank all of our wonderful parent volunteers who performed and led activities for our students. It is a day we know our students will remember forever.

### **Finding Nemo Jr!**

We want to thank all of the wonderful performers and volunteers who worked so hard on this fabulous performance. We would also like to thank Mrs. Housholder, Mrs. Kulamer, Mrs. Mack, Mrs. Manaktala, Ms. Nephew, and Dr. Sumrak for all of their hard work and dedication. And.... We can't forget the parents of our amazing cast for supporting their work. What an amazing show and team!

### **Golden Spoon Winners**

Every month our Sharks work hard at demonstrating 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 win the Golden Spoon Award for each grade level.

The Golden Spoon winners for March are:

Pre-K – Ms. Jain

Kindergarten- Ms. Spieth and Ms. O'Connor

1<sup>st</sup> – Ms. Alcorn, Ms. Patel, Ms. Sherman, Dr. Sumrak

2<sup>nd</sup> – Ms. Cook

3<sup>rd</sup> – Ms. Moore

4<sup>th</sup> – Ms. Watkins

5<sup>th</sup> – Ms. Mack, Ms. Dowling, Ms. Burnett

### **Pre-K Lottery Drawing Results**

The Lottery for the 2024-2025 Pre-K Class has concluded. Results can be found [here](#). If you missed the deadline to register, please contact Courtney Gatlin Cleary, school data clerk, at [gatlinclearc@fultonschools.org](mailto:gatlinclearc@fultonschools.org) to be placed on the waiting list. You will be placed at the bottom of the waiting list in the order that your communication is received.

### **Donations for ASL (Advanced Strategies Lab / STEM Lab):**

Our STEM lab is collecting cereal boxes for upcoming projects. If you are able to donate, please send the items with your child. They can bring the items to Mrs. Pennywell at any time.

### **Student Success Skills Survey**

Each year, our students in grades 3-5 take a survey at the beginning of the year and one at the end of the year focused on our Student Success Skills program. The Student Success Skills Inventory is used to measure student growth across Student Success Skills standards as a result of ReThink Ed lessons. Students will complete the 15-20 item inventory between *April 8, 2024 – April 12, 2024*. It takes about 15 minutes to complete. The inventory is pushed out to students using the Illuminate platform.

**Parents can choose to opt their student out of the inventory** by submitting a written request to our assistant principal, Samantha Weaver, at [weavers@fultonschools.org](mailto:weavers@fultonschools.org). We ask that all opt-out requests be received no later than Friday, March 29.

### **Hot of the press.... Mark your calendars for our annual MOVIE night**

The date has been set. Please join us on Friday, April 26 for our annual movie night under the stars. Bring your blankets, chairs, and snacks and sit back and relax for this free event hosted by the Shakerag Foundation. More details coming soon!

### **Save the Date! GA Milestones for Grades 3-5**

Mark your calendars... This year students in grades 3-5 are scheduled to take the GA Milestones assessment April 29 – May 17. Additional details will be provided following Spring Break.

### **Kindergarten Round-Up**

Shakerag will be hosting their Kindergarten Round-up on Thursday, May 16 at 11:30 a.m. Please click [here](#) for more details. To register for the event, please use the following link. <https://forms.office.com/r/YXTSnXtmwP> If you know a future SHARK, please pass this information on. Our current PreK students do not need to attend.

## **Spotlight On Special Areas:**

### **What's Happening in Art with Mr. Avery this Month**

Please click [here](#) for this month's Art Newsletter.

### **What's Happening in ASL with Ms. Pennywell this Month**

Please click [here](#) for this month's ASL Newsletter.

### **What's Happening in Music with Ms. Housholder (Petty) and Mr. Denney this Month**

Please click [here](#) for this month's Music Newsletter.

### **What's Happening in PE with Coach Smith this Month**

Please click [here](#) for this month's PE Newsletter.

## **A Message from the Shakerag PTO:**

### **Yearbook**

Don't miss out on all the memories that come with the 23-24 yearbook! Order yours [HERE!](#)

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

### **LAST DAY: 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 - If you would like more details, please contact any member of the SGC or reach out to the SGC Chair, Rashi Manaktala, at [ManaktalaR@fultonschools.org](mailto:ManaktalaR@fultonschools.org).**

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.

### **School Governance Council Meeting**

We invite you to visit our School Governance Council (SGC) website, which can be accessed on our school website (click [here](#)). Our latest Strategic Plan as well as other relevant SGC information is posted to this site for your convenience. The date of our next SGC meeting has been changed to align with the State of the School address on Thursday, April 11 at 8:30 a.m. We hope you can join us.

## In the Community:

### **Parents of rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders**

Welcome to River Trail Middle School. We look forward to seeing you in the fall. As part of Fulton County Schools residency verification process for all rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders, please submit 2 forms of residency for the upcoming school year 2024-2025. River Trail Middle School is requiring both residency documents to be emailed **ONLY** to [701-ResidencyVerification6th@fultonschools.org](mailto:701-ResidencyVerification6th@fultonschools.org). The deadline for submitting documents is July 31, 2024. For any residency related questions, please email Monica Bhatnagar, River Trail Middle School Data Specialist at [bhatnagars@fultonschools.org](mailto:bhatnagars@fultonschools.org).

### **Calling all Shakerag Youth Swimmers!!!**

Join the Shakerag Sharks Swim Team for the 2024 season! All Shakerag Elementary students are eligible to join the team. Practice begins the week of May 13 with the season wrapping up at the end of June. **While we have a variety of ability levels on the team, each child needs to be able to swim independently before joining the team. An evaluation will be done for each new swimmer before being admitted to the team.** The season consists of 5 meets against other subdivisions within the Johns Creek community and all the team practices are held at the Shakerag HOA Pool. To learn more about how to register for the team, see the meet and practice schedule, and meet this years coaching staff, please visit the official team website at [www.shakeragswimteam.com](http://www.shakeragswimteam.com). You can also reach the team via email at [shakeragswimteam@gmail.com](mailto:shakeragswimteam@gmail.com) with any questions regarding the team. Registration is open from March 1-April 15 GO SHARKS!!!

### **Great Harvest Easter Menu**

Looking for holiday meals? Visit our wonderful business partner, Great Harvest, in Johns Creek, for all your Easter treats. Click [here](#) for the menu.

### **Spring Break Events at Aurora Cineplex & The Fringe Miniature Golf**

Another one of our business partners, Aurora Cineplex, invites you to their Easter and Spring Break week. They are located at 5100 Commerce Parkway, Roswell, GA 30076.

Spring Break: Extended Hours - Movies & Mini Golf – 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday, 3/29 – Saturday, 4/06 & 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. Sunday, 4/07

EASTER AT THE FRINGE - Sunday, March 31 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

\$ 3.00 Spring Family Flicks: Play at 10:00 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.

Peter Rabbit (PG) – Friday, 3/29, Easter Sunday, 3/31, and Monday, 4/01 – Thursday, 4/04

**We hope you all have an amazing Spring Break!  
Please stay safe and ENJOY!**

