

Shark Bytes



Shakerag Elementary
Christine Lemerond, Principal
Emily Davis, Assistant Principal

September 16, 2022

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

Visit our website: www.shakeragelementary.com

Shark Tales:

Surprise Visitor in Carpool

This morning we had an opportunity to witness a surprise visitor during morning carpool. A beautiful deer came from the back field at the end of the building and then was spooked by carpool. The students, staff, and parents did an amazing job quickly getting in the building and pausing carpool so the deer could find his way off campus.

Progress Report Cards

Student progress report cards are now available on the Parent and Student Portals. For instructions on how to access your child's 4.5-week progress report, please click [here](#).

Newcomers Coffee

We want to thank all of our new families and PTO Board members that joined us Wednesday, September 14 for our Newcomers Coffee. If any member of the Shakerag family, new or returning, ever has an issue, concern, or question, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher and/or any member of the Shakerag staff.

Hands on Shakerag is next Saturday, September 24

We have an excellent school, staff, teachers, and community. It is time to give love back by beautifying our school. On September 24, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., all Shakerag families and friends are invited to help us with planting, removing weeds, and spreading pine straw around the school. Bring gardening gloves, yard waste bags, and your water bottles. The more families we have available to help, the faster we can go in completing this amazing project! Please sign up at [Hands On Shakerag 2022](#). For more information, please click [here](#).

Shakerag Elementary will soon teach kids to Think First & Stay Safe™

Fulton County Schools is excited to share that we will soon commence our personal safety education program for all elementary students called *Think First & Stay Safe™*. The *Think First & Stay Safe™* program is a research-based program that teaches specific personal safety education by way of interactive classroom lessons, classroom posters, role-plays, and corresponding activities. *Think First & Stay Safe™* enables students to take an active and necessary role in protecting themselves from harassment, abduction, bullying, exploitation, and various forms of abuse (physical, sexual, emotional).

In October of this school year, *Think First & Stay Safe™* lessons will be implemented at Shakerag Elementary School for all K-5 students. You may preview the materials upon request. Please reach out to Ms. Paras to schedule an appointment. You can also learn more about the detailed lesson plans and research behind this program at www.childluresprevention.com. Please be aware that more information is provided on the website than will actually be used in Fulton County Schools.

If you prefer that your child not participate in the *Think First & Stay Safe™* program, please sign and return the bottom of the parent letter that was sent home today in your child's Friday Folder to our school counselor, Ms. Michelle Paras, by September 28. If you have any additional questions, Ms. Paras can be reached at ParasM@fultonschools.org.

Shakerag Chorus

Attention all 4th and 5th grade students: You are invited to join our brand new Shakerag Elementary Chorus! Chorus rehearsals will take place every Wednesday afternoon from 2:30-3:30 p.m. There is no audition to join! If you are interested, visit the [Shakerag Elementary Music Website](#) to access the Chorus Contract, digital sign-up form, and more information. Sign-ups will CLOSE September 21.

A Message from the Shakerag Foundation:

Volunteer to Support the Foundation

Wondering how you can get involved at Shakerag? Looking for something with a LIMITED time commitment but a BIG IMPACT? Do you enjoy fundraising activities and/or community engagement? Then, The Foundation might be for YOU! **We are currently looking for volunteers for the 2022-2023 school year!** Fun Facts - The Foundation is a 501(c) 3 organization formed to benefit Shakerag, the teachers, and our students. We also cooperate with local businesses for Spirit Nights, support our fabulous teachers with gift cards, engage in business partnership programs, sponsor Career Day and many more things! Most importantly – This is a LIMITED time commitment! We are a small team but are filled with good people! We would love to welcome you to our team! Please contact Christine Lemerond at lemerond@fultonschools.org for more details and she can connect you with the team.

A Message from the Shakerag PTO:

Attention Room Parents!

We will hold our first Room Parent meeting on **Tuesday, September 27 at 8 a.m.** in the cafeteria. Please come prepared to make friends, learn how to run the PTO Message Boards, plan for upcoming classroom parties, and how to support your teachers throughout the year. Coffee and Donuts will be provided. Please be sure to complete your online Fulton County Schools volunteer training prior to the meeting. (<https://www.fultonschools.org/Page/9539>)

Room Parents Needed - We are still recruiting Room Parents for the following teachers: Mandel (Kindergarten), Patel (1st), Sudeth (2nd), Christiansen (3rd), Kim (4th) and Mack (5th). If your child has one of these teachers and you are interested in being part of a fun group of parents who like to plan parties and support your teacher, please reach out to Krista Zimmerman (kzimmerman73@gmail.com) for more information.

PTO Sponsorship

Our PTO has consistently provided our students with outstanding and fun activities/events over the years. Your financial support directly impacts the quality and quantity of academic programs, materials, and fun events like Treats for Teachers, Science Fun, Bingo Night, School Dance, Movie Night, Field Day, Holiday Party, End of Year Party, and many more that we can provide. A paid PTO membership helps support all events above and is one of the best ways to make a direct impact to support our students' activities. You don't need to organize an event or be a volunteer to be part of the PTO. Plus, your membership gives you access to the school directory. To find out more about the PTO, please visit PTO's website (click [here](#)) and view upcoming events. Every membership makes a huge difference!

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 Thursday, October 13, at 8:00 a.m.

FCS News:

Showing up Matters for R.E.A.L

Regular attendance is vital for student success. When students attend regularly, starting as early as preschool and kindergarten, they have an opportunity to achieve academically and thrive. Research shows that when students are chronically absent, (missing 10% or more of the school year or 18 days over an entire year), they are less likely to read proficiently by third grade, achieve in middle school, and graduate from high school.

September is Attendance Awareness Month. Attending school regularly provides an opportunity to:

- Build **R**outines
- Increase **E**ngagement
- Provide **A**ccess to resources
- Support **L**earning

Routines: Establishing a routine of daily attendance helps reduce stress at home and supports a habit of attendance that will help students develop a sense of responsibility.

Engagement: Being in school helps students to get to know each other and school staff and builds relationships that can motivate participation in learning.

Access to Resources: Schools provide access to valuable resources such as meals, health, mental health supports and fun enrichment activities such as sports, clubs, music, and other afterschool and summer programs.

Learning: Students who attend school regularly do better academically and are more likely to graduate from high school.

In addition to attending school regularly, it is imperative that students arrive at school on time. School tardiness has a direct, negative effect on student success. Students arriving late miss morning announcements, instruction, academic assignments, and interrupt the instructional time for other students. Plan to arrive early enough that your child is in the classroom when the bell rings at 7:40 a.m. Please see our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document for more details and continue to send absence notes and emails to the teachers as soon as you can or within 3 days of absence, thank you!

In the Community:

Linda McCain's Community Meeting

Our school board member, Linda McCain, will be hosting a community meeting on Tuesday, September 20, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. at Findley Oaks Elementary School (5880 Findley Chase Dr., Johns Creek, GA 30097). All are welcome to join.

Calling all Girls interested in joining Girl Scouts!

The Girl Scouts of Oakwood Circle Service Unit has formed new troops at all levels in elementary school. There are a few spots left in these troops. If you are interested in joining a troop, please fill out the interest form by clicking [here](#). Please click [here](#) for more information.

Have a wonderful weekend!