



# BARNWELL ELEMENTARY

9425 Barnwell Rd Johns Creek, GA 30022 470-254-4960

Fulton  
County Schools  
Where Students Come First

*A Note from the Principal, Martin Neuhaus*      *September 16, 2021*

## New Information

### Johns Creek Police Department Worth-It Wednesday

Officers from the Johns Creek Police Department read with our Pre-K, Kindergarten, and First Grade students last week, as part of their **Worth-It Wednesday** program. Our students enjoyed spending time with these special guest and the officers enjoyed our bears' excitement for reading.



### COVID Information/Procedures

The latest [Epidemiology Report](#) from 9/10 has Johns Creek at a **309.7. Incidence Rate**, a slight decrease from last week (hooray!) but still well above the 100 threshold. This means that we will continue to be under a mask mandate for *at least* the next three weeks (to remove the mask mandate we need two consecutive weeks with an Incidence Rate below 100).

***As a reminder, please fill out the [Covid Reporting Form](#) and keep your child home until contacted if:***

**You/your child are (1) Covid Positive; (2) exposed to someone Covid-positive at home, or (3) have taken a Covid test because of symptoms.**

If any of these apply, it is imperative that you complete the [Covid Reporting Form](#) and wait for further instructions from Fulton County *before* sending your child back to school. This may take 24-48 hours as the nurses are responding to parents in the order they are submitted to the portal. More information is available on our county Covid website (<https://www.fultonschools.org/coronavirus>).

### Late Arrivals and Early Check-Outs

As we settle into the school year, we've made great progress in decreasing the number of late student arrivals each morning. I appreciate everyone's help in ensuring our children are in class before the 7:40 morning bell. Our car pool lane is ending each morning by 7:35, allowing our students (and staff!) to make it to class in time for our daily morning meetings.

I'd now like to ask for help in reducing the number of afternoon early dismissals we have. We are averaging about 15-20 early dismissal requests a day – that's a lot of classroom interruptions each day! Each time we call into the classroom we are disrupting the entire class, stopping instruction and student learning. Please help us minimize these interruptions by scheduling appointments that don't require an early check-out.

### [Late Start Day – Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup>](#)

Our county has added six “Late Start” days to the calendar, the first being on Monday (9/20). Buses and car pool will continue to operate on the **regular** schedule during late start dates; however, parents also can **choose** to transport their child to school an hour later without being considered tardy. Late Start days are **OPTIONAL** for parents – if you choose to bring your child late (up to 8:40 AM) you will need to park in the visitor spaces and walk your child to our front door (he/she will not be considered tardy unless arriving after 8:40).

To view the FCS Calendar and other late start days, please click [here](#).

### [Get your Spirit Wear Today!](#)

Barnwell Spirit Wear is ready for purchase! Order now through September 26<sup>th</sup> to get your fun Barnwell Bear and Bee Kind shirts - short-sleeved, long-sleeved, dri-fit, and sweatshirts/hoodies available for adults and kids. Get them for the whole family! Bear Support discount codes were sent to Bear supporters and up. Let the PTO know if you didn't get one.

<https://barnwellpto.membershiptoolkit.com/spiritwear2021>

### [Barnwell's Best Award!](#)

Each week our team recognizes a staff member that exemplifies Barnwell's BEST – someone who leads by example, sharing their positive energy and enthusiasm with our school family. This week's Barnwell's BEST Recipient is **Cassie Baker, First Grade Teacher**.

Congratulations to **Cassie Baker** for being one of Barnwell's BEST!



## Recurring School and Community News

### [SGC Waiver Request Feedback Window 9/2- 10/1](#)

Our School Governance Council (SGC) is requesting district approval on two waivers for the 2022-23 school year and wants feedback from all Barnwell families. These waivers allow us flexibility in using allocated funds as well as implementing our Daily TAG program. We have used these waivers successfully for the last three years and are required to resubmit them again to comply with the new [Value-Added Flexibility](#) process. The two waivers we request are:

1. **Itinerant Conversion:** This waiver allows us to convert an itinerant position (a part-time position that we earn based on student enrollment). We have used this waiver previously to add additional classroom teachers or to supplement our TAG/EIP positions. This Itinerant Conversion waiver is an [Opt-In](#) waiver meaning all interested schools are eligible to apply.

2. **Daily TAG Model:** This waiver allows us to serve qualifying students in TAG on a daily basis (50 minutes each day) rather than a weekly basis (250 minutes one day). Students in TAG (as well as those receiving ESOL, EIP and/or Speech services) are served daily during our WIN (*What I Need*) time. This allows **ALL** students to receive daily instruction from their classroom teachers in all subjects while still receiving the special services required. This [Daily TAG Model](#) waiver is unique to Barnwell.

Please provide your input on both waivers on our [SGC Waiver Feedback Form](#) now through 9/30. Our SGC will consider all parent feedback prior to determining if we want to move forward with these waiver requests.

### **[Yearbook Photos](#)**

Yearbooks are now available to purchase! Please visit [Balfour.com](#) and find Barnwell Elementary to purchase a yearbook. Don't wait, order now! Once we sell out, we cannot order more!

The Yearbook Committee wants to see your photos from ANY SCHOOL EVENT! Other examples of photos to send are Sporting Events, Girl/Boy Scouts, photos with friends from school, etc.

Uploading is free and easy! Please use the FREE Image Share app to upload them directly onto our secure site. If you have a smartphone, you are officially now a yearbook photographer!

TO UPLOAD PHOTOS FROM YOUR MOBILE DEVICE:

- Search for Balfour Image Share in your app marketplace
- Download the app and create an account
- Enter our project number: **222281** (no upload code needed)

Please enter details (event, grade, teacher name, etc) when prompted so we can place photos in the correct place in the book! Please direct all questions to Paige Wuyek at [paige.wuyek@gmail.com](mailto:paige.wuyek@gmail.com)

### **[Items Delivered to School](#)**

Please know that we do not interrupt classes to bring forgotten items to your child during the school day. If you need to drop off an item after school has started, it will remain in the front office. We will email the teachers and they will send the students if/when there is a break in the day to retrieve their forgotten item. Items will not be delivered to your child's classroom. Please help your child prepare for their day the night before so that they have everything needed for the day when they arrive at school.

### **[Parent Visitors](#)**

As explained in our multiple [Back to School Updates](#), we will NOT have any Visitors/Volunteers in our instructional spaces (classrooms, cafeteria, etc.) between 7:00 and 3:00 PM during the first nine weeks of school.

### **[Code of Conduct](#)**

Our Student Code of Conduct is available on our county website ([click here for electronic copy](#)). All parents are asked to acknowledge receipt through the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Please visit the [Infinite Campus Parent Portal website](#) to sign-off on this yearly requirement or for more information on accessing the Parent Portal. Hard copies of the Code of Conduct are available in our front office for interested parents.

### **[Junior Gladiators Girls Basketball Tryout Information](#)**

Tryouts are conducted over two sessions at Johns Creek High School (JCHS). All players interested in playing on a team **MUST** be in attendance with the tryout form completed on the first night of tryouts unless other arrangements have been made. Please click [here](#) for more information and click [here](#) for the tryout form.

### Important Dates

- Late Start Day – September 20<sup>th</sup>
- Picture Make-up Day - October 4<sup>th</sup>
- Columbus Day (FCS Closed) – October 10<sup>th</sup>
- Teacher Workday (No school students) – October 11<sup>th</sup>
- Family Movie Night – October 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Late Start Day – October 25<sup>th</sup>
- Papa John’s Spirit Night – November 4<sup>th</sup>
- Late Start Day – November 15<sup>th</sup>
- Thanksgiving Holiday – November 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>
- Giving Tree – December 1<sup>st</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>
- Winter Break – December 20<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>st</sup>
- Teacher Workday – January 3<sup>rd</sup>

### Quick Links:

[Attendance Options](#)

[Bus Information](#)

[Car Rider Information](#)

[Dismissal Form](#)

[Summit Counseling at Barnwell](#)

Martin