



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 23, 2021

New Information

Late Start Days

Monday was our first late start day of the year, and we had 218 students arrive between 8:00 and 8:45! While the intended purpose of these days is to provide professional learning opportunities for our staff, please know that we are limited in our ability to do this because we are not grouping students together in one location so all students, whether arriving at the normal time or later, go directly to their classroom.

Now that we know to expect a large number of late arrivals, we'll do a better job logistically for future late start days, including opening our car pool lane from 8:00 – 8:45, moving our announcements/attendance procedures to begin at 8:40 and creating an alternate specials schedule.

COVID Update/Procedures

Finally, some good news on the Covid front. The number of student Covid quarantines at Barnwell has decreased dramatically over the last few weeks. We currently have only **three** students that are home quarantining (due to other family members testing positive) and **no** classes quarantining at school (due to possible exposure at school).

Also, the latest [Epidemiology Report](#) from 9/21 has Johns Creek at a **259.5 Incidence Rate**, a significant decrease from last week (hooray!) but still well above the 100 threshold. This means that we will continue to be under a mask mandate until we have 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>).

Science Olympiad Club Sign-Up for 4th & 5th Graders

What is Science Olympiad Club? Science Olympiad Club is a national non-profit organization that is dedicated to improving science education, increasing interest in science, and providing recognition for outstanding academic achievement. Science Olympiad is a fun, hands-on way to

make science exciting and foster a passion for the subject, while promoting teamwork, cooperation, and problem-solving skills. Club Meetings will run Tuesday mornings in the STEM lab from 7:20-7:50. Our first meeting will be October 19th! If you are a 4th or 5th grade student and you are interested, please [click here](#) and complete the application by October 8th. If you have questions, please contact Katie Stiers at StiersK@fultonschools.org.

[Art Extravaganza](#)

Art Extravaganza is a new competition that allows young artists at Barnwell to submit their original works of art to be judged by professional artists! Students may enter into one or all of the available art categories in response to this year's theme: *Together we can...* Participants will be eligible for school-wide recognition and division prizes! Please click [here](#) for more information.

[Get your Spirit Wear Today!](#)

Barnwell Spirit Wear is ready for purchase! Order now through September 26th 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 **Nicole Siegel, Kindergarten Teacher**.

Congratulations to **Nicole Siegel** 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.

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.

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.

Johns Creek High School Cheerleading

Johns Creek High School Cheerleading is raising money for the Karen Wellington Foundation (KWF) for LIVING with Breast Cancer at their **Pink Out game on October 15th**. There will be a silent auction, T-Shirt Sales and amazing raffle items. This is an annual fundraiser, and they would love the Johns Creek community's help! 100% of the money raised goes to the KWF and will send a woman in our community who is battling breast cancer on a trip of a lifetime. Come cheer on the Gladiators during their Pink Out game and help support the Karen Wellington Foundation for LIVING with Breast Cancer!

Important Dates

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Bruster's Night (Ellard)	September 29	
Picture Make-up Day	October 4	8:00 AM
Columbus Day (No School)	October 11	
Teacher Workday (No School)	October 12	
Principal Coffee	October 14	8:00 AM
Family Movie Night	October 22	6:00 PM
Late Start Day	October 25	8:40 AM
Papa John's Spirit Night	November 4	11:00 AM
Late Start Day	November 5	8:40 AM
Thanksgiving Holiday	November 22-26	
Giving Tree	December 1-10	
Winter Break	December 20 - 31	
Teacher Workday	January 3	

Quick Links:

[Attendance Options](#)

[Bus Information](#)

[Car Rider Information](#)

[Dismissal Form](#)

[Summit Counseling at Barnwell](#)

Martin