



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

November 18, 2021

New Information

[Book Fair POP-UP Family Night Tonight - 3:30-6:00 PM](#)

Exciting news! We still have some excellent titles available for purchase at Barnwell's Book Fair! We have decided to host a pop-up Family Night Tonight from 3:30-6:00 PM at the Barnwell Media Center. This will be a great opportunity to get some holiday shopping done and to find some great books for your child's teacher. All forms of payment are accepted, and all purchases benefit the school. If you are unable to make it, don't worry! Students can still shop our Book Fair in person through Friday, and online shopping also remains open through Friday.

[Thanksgiving Break](#)

I hope that you have a safe, relaxing, and enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday next week. While Covid has altered our reality in so many ways over the past two years, there are still so many reasons to smile and be joyful. In [The Book of Joy](#), Archbishop Tutu and the Dalai Lama suggest three ideas to living a joyful life:

1. Having a **positive** mindset
2. Being **grateful** for what/who you have in your life
3. Doing **kind** things for others

I encourage each of you to think about these simple ideas for living a joyful life. One of my favorite quotes that helps me stay positive is "***What you focus on expands***". When you intentionally look for the good in life you will find that you see more and more good things in life, which in turn fills your mind with **positivity**. In contrast, I find that when I focus on the negative things (which of course happen to all of us!) I tend to see negativity everywhere. The choice of what to focus on is mine, and as often as possible I choose to look for the good.

As principal, I am **grateful** for many things, including:

- **Our students.** Our bears are kind, considerate, curious, and enthusiastic learners. They challenge our staff to be at our best and I appreciate the opportunity to help them learn and grow each day.
- **Our parents.** Your support, involvement and partnership are the key to our school success, now more than ever! Your kind words and support matter – please keep lifting up our teachers whenever possible!
- **Our PTO.** Our Barnwell PTO, led by Michelle Erste and Sogol Zebarjadi, takes great care of our team and provides so many resources for our students to use and enjoy on a daily basis.

Mostly, however, as principal I am grateful for our **Barnwell staff**. Despite all that 2021 has thrown at us our staff still shows up every day with a positive attitude and a loving heart. They roll up their sleeves to do whatever is needed for our students and strive to ***be a joyful community of collaborative, engaged and empowered learners***. Our staff is amazing, and I am grateful to be part of the Barnwell team.

Art Extravaganza Awards Ceremony– For Students Only

Congratulations to all Art Extravaganza participants! Winners have been chosen and prizes will be awarded during a special ceremony in the cafeteria this Friday 11/19 at 7:45 AM! This event is only for students who entered the competition.

Election Day – November 30th

Barnwell Elementary is a voting location for the municipal election run-off on Tuesday, November 30th from 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM.

We will be utilizing our cafeteria for voting, so both breakfast and lunch will be eaten in classrooms on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. All voters will enter/exit through the cafeteria doors on our bus lane – NO voters will have access to the rest of our building. A uniformed Police Officer will be on site throughout the day, ensuring that voters enter/exit through the designated doors only.

Morning Car Riders – Please Arrive BEFORE 7:35

For all our morning car pool drivers, please help us by arriving **BEFORE** 7:35 each morning. We move approximately 250 cars through our car pool lane each morning and appreciate all our families that are here between 7:10 and 7:30 and ready to go when it's their turn. This keeps our line moving and allows us to clear our line before 7:35.

Parents arriving after 7:35 will need to park and walk their child to the front office, checking him/her in as tardy (after 7:40).

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 **Sue Mulder, ESOL Teacher**.

Congratulations to **Sue Mulder** for being one of Barnwell's BEST!



Recurring School and Community News

COVID Update/Procedures

The latest [Epidemiology Report](#) from 11/10 has Johns Creek at 72.8, a decrease from the 11/05 report. Masks are still optional in Johns Creek as long as this number stays 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>).

Student Checkout

As a reminder, a Driver's License ID or Government ID is required for all student checkouts as well as a mask when coming into the building. When checking out a student early, please send in a [Dismissal Change Form](#) to your child's teacher.

Yearbooks

Yearbooks are available to purchase! Please visit Balfour.com and find Barnwell Elementary to purchase a yearbook. Don't wait, order now!

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

Johns Creek Founders Day Parade – December 4th

The Johns Creek Founders Day Parade is Saturday, December 4th at 10:00 AM. Please click [here](#) for the parade route.

Barnwell Road/Holcomb Bridge Improvement Project

Work should begin soon for the intersection improvements being made at Barnwell Rd/Holcomb Bridge Rd. While this won't impact us at Barnwell, it will impact everyone traveling south on Barnwell Road during construction. Click [here](#) for details.

Important Dates

Event	Date	Time	Location
Book Fair – Family Night	November 18	3:30 PM-6:00 PM	Media Center
Book Fair Last Day	November 19	Online (parents)	Media Center (students)
Thanksgiving Holiday	November 22-26	No School	-----
Picture Make-Up Day	December 1	8:00 AM-9:00 AM	-----
Giving Tree	December 1-10	-----	-----
Winter Break	December 20 - 31	No School	-----
Tumbles Spirit Night	December 13	4:00 PM-8:00 PM	-----
Teacher Workday	January 3	No School	-----
First Day 2 nd Semester	January 4	-----	-----
MLK, Jr. Holiday	January 17	No School	-----
Principal's Coffee	January 20	8:00 AM	Cafeteria
Sky Zone Spirit Night	January 20	4:00 PM-8:00 PM	Roswell location
Late Start Day	January 24	8:10 AM-8:40 AM	Car Pool Drop Off
Mother/Son Bingo	January 28	6:00 PM-8:00 PM	Cafeteria
Papa Johns Spirit Night	February 3	11:00 AM – close	-----
Professional Development Day	February 18	No School Students	-----
President's Day	February 21	School Closed	-----
Late Start Day	February 28	8:10AM-8:40 AM	Car Pool Drop Off

Quick Links:

[Attendance Options](#)

[Bus Information](#)

[Car Rider Information](#)

[Dismissal Form](#)

[Summit Counseling at Barnwell](#)

Martin