



BARNWELL ELEMENTARY

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

Fulton
County Schools
Where Students Come First

A Note from the Principal, Takisha Benning February 1, 2024

New Information

As we kick off the month of February, I wanted to share some exciting news and important reminders with you. Firstly, thank you for your continued support and engagement. Your involvement makes a huge difference in your child's education.

We have a busy month ahead with a range of activities planned, including our play *Dream Weaver* and our first *Fun With Your Son Glow Party*.

Due to the use of the stage for our school play, we regretfully must suspend parent lunch visits due to limited cafeteria seating the week of February 5th thru February 9th. We will resume our normal parent lunch visit schedule on Monday, February 12th.

Please remember to read our weekly newsletters for updates and important announcements. We're looking forward to a fantastic month of learning and fun together!

Barnwell's Reading Bowl Team Awarded 3rd Place!

Congratulations to Barnwell's Reading Bowl Team for winning **3rd Place** at the Fulton County Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl last Saturday! The team of ten 4th & 5th grade readers, coached by Mrs. Shapiro and Mrs. Michaelis, competed against 31 elementary schools in Fulton County to test their knowledge on ten novels, all nominees for the Georgia Children's Book Award.

The team has been meeting weekly since September to prepare for the bowl. Their hard work, dedication, and talent were evident as they proudly represented our school. GO BEARS!



Team members: Puru Bhargava, Gianna Garman, Ethan Huyser, Shana Ji, Muktha Koneru, Mishka Kumar, Sarah Moreno-Ravid, Samaira Pal, Elena Robleto, and Vihaan Verma.

SGC Needs You!

It's time for the election of new members to our School Governance Council. Barnwell will have one parent/guardian position open for election this upcoming school year. The elected candidates will serve for two years (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026). If you have a child that will attend Barnwell for at least two consecutive years, you are eligible to run for election.

Our School Governance Council (SGC) plays a critical role in the success of our school. The SGC works with school leadership and the community to help determine the long-term direction of the school, design innovative solutions to increase academic achievement, and serve as school ambassadors to the local community.

The candidate declaration period runs February 5th until March 29th with elections being held April 17th -April 24th. If you are interested in running for a position on SGC, visit our SGC website [here](#) and click **Elections** for a candidate guide and/declaration form.

For specific information about Barnwell's SGC, please reach out to me at Benning@fultonschools.org.

Fulton County Schools 2024-2025 Pre-K Lottery Registration

Barnwell is expected to have two Pre-K classes for the upcoming school year. Our lottery registration is open today, February 1st until 11:59 PM on March 8th. The lottery will take place on Wednesday, March 27th.

For additional information and the link to register, click [here](#) for the English flyer and [here](#) for the Spanish flyer. For additional information regarding the 2024-2025 Pre-K Lottery & Pre-Registration Guidelines, please click [here](#).

All Pro Dad's Breakfast

Friday, February 9 at 6:45 AM, Barnwell dads and students are invited for breakfast in the cafeteria. Take a chance to connect with your students and their school to discuss topics that help students build character. Upcoming topics include Gentleness, Courage, and Forgiveness. *(No child should feel left out - Moms or Guardians are welcome too)* **PLEASE**

RSVP at allprodadchapters.com/chapters/4353

Barnwell's Night with the Atlanta Hawks

Barnwell's Chorus has been invited to sing the National Anthem at the Atlanta Hawks Basketball Game on Saturday, February 10, 2024, at State Farm Arena. The game starts at 7:30 PM, and the Hawks will be playing against the Houston Rockets.

If you would like to support our chorus and attend the game, you can purchase tickets at www.Hawkspromos.com/barnwell. Tickets start at \$41 per ticket, and for every ticket you purchase, the Hawks will donate \$5 back to our chorus.

Unfortunately, this game conflicts with the Saturday night performance of our school play. However, if you were planning to attend the play on Friday night (2/9), I invite you to come early to State Farm Arena to hear our chorus sing the national anthem before the start of the Hawks game.

Bring your entire family along and help support Barnwell's Chorus! Thank you for your support.

Barnwell Elementary's PTO Theatre – Dream Weaver

Barnwell Elementary's PTO Theatre will present *Dream Weaver*, on Friday, February 9th at 7:00 PM and Saturday, February 10th at 6:00 PM in the Barnwell Elementary Cafeteria. Tickets are \$15.00 per seat; seats are limited. Be sure to get your ticket before they sell out! Doors open 30 minutes prior to showtime.

<https://search.seatyourself.biz/webstore/accounts/barnwell/buy-tix>

Please click [here](#) for more information. **Note:** Cash only concessions will be sold; \$1.00 each for most items.

Fun with Your Son Glow Party - February 16th

Calling all moms...join us for our first Mother/Son event, the ***Let's Glow Crazy Glow Party!*** We are pulling out all the tricks with a neon party full of music, dancing, refreshments, photo booths and more.

Tickets are [on sale now](#) on Membership Toolkit. **PTO is also looking for dad and/or mom volunteers for this event; please click [here](#) for more information or to [sign up](#).**

Save the Date: Father/Daughter Dance - March 15th

Mark your calendars and purchase tickets for this year's Father/Daughter Dance. The theme is ***Under the Lights***, and we cannot wait to greet our stars as they walk the red carpet. Tickets are [on sale now](#) with more information to come soon.

FCS Schools Will Be Closed February 19th and 20th

All Fulton County Schools will be closed Monday, February 19th in observance of President's Day. Students will also be off Tuesday, February 20th due to a Professional Development Day for staff. Please click [here](#) for the FCS 2023-2024 School Calendar.

Barnwell's Best Award!

Each week our team recognizes a staff member that exemplifies Barnwell's BEST – someone who leads by example, shares their positive energy, and exudes enthusiasm with our school family. This week's Barnwell's BEST recipient **Amber Wells, Second Grade Teacher**.



Recurring School and Community News

Teacher and Professional of the Year

Barnwell is fortunate to have a multitude of great teachers and staff members on our team. To celebrate the work of these awesome staff members, each year Fulton County honors a Teacher of the Year and Professional of the Year from each school. To help us with this process this year, we would like to include our community in the nomination process of our candidates.

Parents, you have a front row view into our classrooms through the eyes and voices of your students. In addition, our non-teaching staff members support our daily work in various capacities and often engage with the community. From helping on the carpool lane, keeping our building clean, to making a nutritious meal for our Bears and everything in between. We are grateful for the hard work of all our staff members.

Please take a moment to complete [this form](#) to nominate your student's favorite teacher and professional of the year and tell us why they should be selected.

Checkmate Replaced Raptor Check-In System

Our Raptor front office visitor/volunteer check-in system has been replaced with Checkmate. Please be sure to complete the new volunteer application process if you have not already done so. **All volunteers must complete the application again to register into our new system.** All

visitors and volunteers are required to scan their Driver's License ID or Government ID when visiting/volunteering at Barnwell.

Please click [to re-register here](#). Upon completion and approval, volunteers will not be required to register again until May 31, 2026.

Barnwell Lost and Found

Please have your student check our lost and found for any item(s) that have been lost. We have a significant number of coats, sweatshirts, water bottles, and lunch boxes. **All unclaimed items will be donated to charity on Friday, February 16th.**



Valentine's Day Treats

As we approach Valentine's Day, it is important to ensure that all homemade candy, desserts, baked goods, or other edible items **are not** to be sold or distributed during school hours, and that appropriate store-bought items are approved by the administration. Please know that taking this measure will help us maintain a safe environment for all students with allergies, etc.

You can help us protect your student(s) by engaging in conversations at home advising students to not eat anything given to them by another person or anything they have not brought from your home. Thank you for your continued partnership in keeping all our students safe at school!

Deadline for Fulton County Schools Hardship Transfer Applications is February 29, 2024

Applications for parents who wish to apply for a 2024-25 hardship transfer or to renew a current hardship to another Fulton County elementary, middle, or high school are available now.

The deadline for submitting a transfer application is Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024, by 4:30 PM., with no exceptions or extensions granted. All requests must be received or postmarked by this date and time. In addition, school system employees who have children receiving an employee hardship transfer must renew their request.

Parents with questions or who need more information about hardship transfers can contact the Fulton County Schools' Student Assignment Office at 470-254-5550 or visit the [FCS Hardship Transfer webpage](#).

Johns Creek HS Drama Department Presents: *Mamma Mia*

Johns Creek High School Drama Department is proud to present *Mamma Mia*: February 22nd -24th. Tickets are available at <https://jchstheater.booktix.com/>. If you know a crew/cast member in the show, please identify their name when you order your tickets.

Dates to Remember

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
February			
PTO Craft Burgers Spirit Night	02/01/2024	4:00 PM–8:00 PM	Craft Burgers
All Pro Dad's Breakfast	02/09/2024	6:45 AM-7:30 AM	Cafe
Theatre Production	02/09/2024	7:00 PM–8:30 PM	Cafe
Theatre Production	02/10/2024	6:00 PM-7:30 PM	Cafe
Fun w/ your Son Glow Party	02/16/2024	6:00 PM-7:30 PM	Cafe
President's Day	02/19/2024	FCS Schools Closed	-----
Professional Development Day	02/20/2024	No School Students	-----
PTO Sky Zone	02/22/2024	4:00 PM-8:00 PM	Sky Zone
PTO Board Meeting	02/23/2024	9:00 AM-10:30 AM	Admin Conf Room
Spring Individual/Class Pictures	02/27/2024	8:00 AM-2:00 PM	Barnwell

Administrative Team

Throughout the year, I encourage you to reach out to your child's teacher with any classroom questions or to our Administrative Team with any school-wide questions:

- Renee Morris, Assistant Principal – MorrisRA@fultonschools.org
- Alysia Muse, Curriculum Support Teacher – Musea@fultonschools.org
- Chelsea Garcia, School Counselor – GarciaC2@fultonschools.org
- Eden Griffin, Instructional Support Teacher – GriffinE1@fultonschools.org
- Takisha Benning, Principal – Benning@fultonschools.org

Quick Links

[Attendance Options](#)

[Bus Stop Information](#)

[Here Comes the Bus Info](#)

[Dismissal Change Form](#)

[Birthday Celebration Form](#)

Takisha Benning, Principal