

# Shark Bytes

**Shakerag Elementary**  
Celebrating Learning. Inspiring Leaders.  
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**April 30, 2021**

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Visit our website: [www.shakeragelementary.com](http://www.shakeragelementary.com)



## Shark Tales:

### National Teacher Appreciation Week: May 3-7

At Shakerag, we typically celebrate Teacher Appreciation week in February. This year, we would also like to take a moment to celebrate all of our teachers, staff and parents who have had to be teachers behind the screens during National Teacher Appreciation Week: May 3-7. As a community, we have come together to do everything we can to ensure teaching and learning continued during a global pandemic. While some of our children have not physically been in our building since March 12, 2020, thanks to technology, and the dedication of our teachers, we have managed to stay connected and learn and grow together. Hats off to this amazing community and to all of the amazing teachers and staff at Shakerag. We are so proud of each of you!

### 2021-2022 School Year

At the April 22 FCS Board Meeting, it was announced that all students would be returning to face-to-face instruction in August. While we are extremely excited about this news, there are some virtual options available for students in grades 3-12. Please [click here](#) for additional details regarding virtual learning opportunities for the 2021-2022 school year.

### Increased Carpool Traffic and Safety Reminders

This week, we welcomed back many of our 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade remote learners for the Georgia Milestones assessment. We truly appreciate everyone's patience with the increased traffic in the mornings. Testing will continue next Tuesday and Wednesday for students in grades 3-5 and on Thursday as well for students in grade 5. Please plan to leave early, as there will continue to be increased traffic each morning of testing. The remote learners who will be joining us for testing are welcome to ride the bus TO school if they choose. Parents of our remote learners will be required to pick students up at the end of each testing session. Please see below for additional testing reminders.

Please help us keep everyone safe by following these important carpool reminders:

- While we prefer for students to be in their classrooms when the bell rings at 7:40 a.m., students are marked tardy if they are not in the building when the bell rings.
- Students should not be dropped off prior to 7:10 a.m.
- **All parents must remain in the carpool line.**
- Drive slowly, be attentive, and refrain from using your cell phone while driving through the carpool lane.
- **Please do not pass other vehicles.**
- Children are only permitted to exit from car doors on the right passenger side. If needed, staff monitors will assist your child from the car. **Parents need to stay inside their vehicles at all times.**
- To prevent accidents, please **do not double-park** and always park in a marked **parking spot**.

### Georgia Milestones Reminders for Students in Grades 3-5

It was a successful first week of Georgia Milestones testing! We are so proud of our 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students! Thank you for all your support and patience as we navigated bringing in many of our remote students for testing!

For the remainder of our testing window, please make sure your child is present and arrives no later than 7:40 a.m. each day! We encourage all students participating in Georgia Milestones to get a good night's sleep and eat a healthy breakfast each morning. It is imperative that all students bring their FULLY CHARGED Fulton County device and charging cord to school. Aside from the FCS device, students **should not** bring any additional electronic devices (cell phones, smart watches, etc.) into the classroom on testing days.

For your reference, please see below for the remainder of our assessment schedule. **As a reminder, only 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will participate in the science portion of the test on Thursday, May 6.**

May 3	May 4	May 5	May 6	May 7
	Grades 3-5 Math Section 1	Grades 3-5 Math Section 2	Grade 5 Science	

If you have any questions regarding Georgia Milestones, please feel free to reach out to our Testing Coordinator, Margaret Mathas, at [mathasm@fultonschools.org](mailto:mathasm@fultonschools.org).

### Textbook Return for Remote Students

Science textbooks were checked out to all 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade remote students. ESOL textbooks were checked out to all 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade ESOL students. If your child is a remote learner and they are coming to Shakerag to take the Georgia Milestones assessment, please have them bring their science and ESOL textbooks to school when they come for testing. For those that have opted out of Georgia Milestones, there will be a bin placed outside the front of the school **April 26 – May 7 from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.** for you to drop off your child's textbook(s). Please reach out to our Curriculum Support Teacher, Jill O'Neill, [oneillj@fultonschools.org](mailto:oneillj@fultonschools.org) with any questions.

### Enrollment Intent for the 2021-2022 School Year

As we begin to plan for the 2021-2022 school year, having an accurate student count is very important. We are asking parents to help us now, in order to ensure we know who will be in our building next year. If your child will **NOT** be returning to Shakerag next school year, please contact Sydney Johnson at [johnsonsd12@fultonschools.org](mailto:johnsonsd12@fultonschools.org) for information regarding the withdrawal process. If you have a child that will be **NEW** to Shakerag next year, please visit our website by clicking [here](#) to register your child. Spring registration began on March 31. We are asking parents to register sooner rather than later! Thank you for your help as we prepare for the 2021-2022 school year.

### Student Placement Support Request for the 2021-2022 School Year

If you feel your child has a specific need that we should be aware of when considering class placements for the 2021-2022 school year, please carefully read and review the Student Placement Support Request Form by clicking [here](#). If needed, please submit the form on or before **3:00 PM on Monday, May 3**. The form will no longer be available after **May 3**.

### Media Center

We have had a great year in the Media Center! Now it's time to finish up those books and return them to the library so we can get ready for next year. Book holds are now disabled. Fines for lost books must be paid through our Online School Payments system ([Click Here](#)) prior to the last day of school. **All books are due next Friday, May 7**. Thank you!

### Spring Pictures

Great news! Our Lifetouch pictures have arrived! If your child is a remote learner **AND** you joined us for Picture Day on April 1, please come to the school to pick-up your pictures between the hours of 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

## A Message from the Shakerag PTO:

### PTO Volunteers

Your Shakerag PTO needs **YOU!** The PTO is currently recruiting volunteers for the 2021-2022 board and we sure would hate for you to miss out on the ability to serve your awesome school, community and our amazing teachers and kids! We have needs of varying levels from Financial Secretary to many event Chair positions. A list of open positions with brief descriptions can be found at <https://sites.google.com/view/shakeragpto>. Whatever your interest level may be, we are confident we can find the perfect fit for you. Please email us at [shakeragpto@gmail.com](mailto:shakeragpto@gmail.com) with your interest and/or any questions you may have, and we will be happy to discuss it with you. We look forward to hearing from you and having you be a part of the Shakerag PTO fun!

## A Message from the School Governance Council (SGC):

We invite you to visit our School Governance Council (SGC) website, which can be accessed by clicking [here](#). 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, May 13 at 8:00 AM** via Microsoft TEAMS.

## A Message from the Foundation:

The Foundation at Shakerag Elementary School is currently in need of a **Secretary** for the 2021-2022 school year. The foundation is a separate 501 (c) 3 organization formed to benefit the school through fundraising activities and community engagement. The community outreach collection of school supplies and coats for Hamilton E. Holmes Elementary School, spirit nights, teacher appreciation gift cards, business partnership program, and employee matching contributions are just a few of this year's activities. This position is a limited time commitment with a big impact to the school. We would love to welcome you to the foundation as our Secretary. The Foundation at Shakerag Elementary School is also looking to expand its members. We currently have a 7-person organization. As a member at large, you would participate in meetings, approximately once a month, and volunteer if needed for any upcoming fundraiser activities hosted by the foundation. Please contact Karen James at [jamesk@fultonschools.org](mailto:jamesk@fultonschools.org) for more information.

## FCS News:

### Kindergarten Roundup 2.0

Fulton County Schools is hosting another Kindergarten Roundup Event for parents of students who will be in Kindergarten for the 2021-2022 school year. This event will focus on summer learning opportunities, activities to engage learners,

expectations for Kindergarten and registration information. There will also be drawings and giveaways. The Kindergarten Roundup 2.0 will take place on Microsoft TEAMS on May 7 at 12:00 p.m. [Click to join the LIVE event](#). Click [here](#) for more information.

### Fulton County Schools COVID-19 Information Site

The FCS COVID-19 site provides updates regarding resources, cases, positive trend rates, and pediatric reports. For the latest information on COVID-19 in Fulton County, please click [here](#) to access the site.

### Fulton County Board of Health COVID-19 Reporting Site

The Fulton County Board of Health and Fulton County Schools have developed an on-line portal for FCS parents/guardians to report student COVID-19 related cases. The portal has been updated to include Spanish, Korean, and Chinese language options. FCS parent/guardians will find a dropdown at the top right for translations. **Please make a report to the FCBOH when your student is COVID-19 positive, has a pending COVID-19 test result, or has been in direct contact with a COVID-19 positive person.** Also, please use this resource for official reporting rather than alerting the school and/or teacher. If you must engage the school/teacher, please do so after you have made an official report to the FCBOH. Lastly, to ensure the protection of our school community, please **do not** allow your child to attend school or school-sponsored events when he/she is ill and/or has any of the above COVID-19 concerns. **Please click [here](#) for more details and consider posting this document in a visible location, i.e. the refrigerator, for easy access.**

[www.fultonschools.org/ReportCOVID](http://www.fultonschools.org/ReportCOVID)

## In the Community:

### Camp Invention

The fun, hands-on STEM activities at this year's Camp Invention program, Recharge, are just what children need this summer. Camp Invention at Home- Johns Creek will be hosting this wonderful program online during the week of June 7-11 for students entering grades K-6. For more information, click [here](#).

### Northview Jr. Titans Football Program

Northview Jr Titans Football program is planning a 2021 Speed & Agility Clinic. This event is free and open to any youth in the community. It's 3 days of fun drills to improve young athletes' speed and agility. We are planning to host this event **May 11th – May 13th from 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM** at Northview High School's stadium. This is a great way to get prepared for any summer sports. To register for the event and for information about playing football visit [northviewjrtitansfootball.com](http://northviewjrtitansfootball.com). Registration is open for K-5 Flag Football with the Johns Creek Hawks! Practice starts this summer for the fall season. Click the link to join the fun [jchawks.org](http://jchawks.org)

### Northview Jr. Titans Cheer Program

Open enrollment for the Northview Jr. Titans Cheerleaders is here! All 4th-8th grade youth who live in the Northview High School district are welcome to enroll. No experience necessary! For more information and to enroll for our upcoming season, please visit their website at <http://www.jrtitanscheer.com/> or click [here](#).

### The Y Afterschool Programs for the 2021-2022 School Year

Y afterschool programs provide a safe, nurturing environment where children are inspired to achieve their full potential. Their programs offer creative and engaging ways for kids, grades Pre-K - 5, to stay active and connected during afterschool hours. We know safety is top-of-mind for parents now more than ever. You can rest assured knowing that child safety is the Y's first priority. For more information about Y Afterschool and Registration, please [click here](#) to go to their website or [click here](#) for the program flyer.

### Tutor Shop

The Tutor Shop Afterschool Program has begun, and they are still accepting student applications. The program is offered on the Shakerag campus from 2:30-6:30 PM Monday – Friday. Please click [here](#) for additional details and registration information. Enrollment for next year has begun! Purchase any package before April 30 to receive \$100 off! For more information, click [here](#).

### Kid Chess

Kid Chess is offering Online Summer Camps! Join one of their (free) open house sessions to see their platform and ask questions. They cannot wait to be back in person, but until then, students can enjoy the Kid Chess Online program! For more information, [click here](#).

**We hope you all have a FANTASTIC weekend!**

