

Barnwell Elementary

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Upcoming Events

August 21

Curriculum Night (PreK-2)

August 22

Curriculum Night (3-5)

Did your family have an opportunity to follow some of the Olympics this summer? It was almost impossible to watch the Games and not be inspired by the dedication and talents as athletes around the world took to the global stage to compete. The Olympics also remind us that our children complete globally to become 21st century leaders. At Barnwell Elementary and all Fulton County Schools, we are spending a lot of time thinking about what skills and habits your children need to be globally competitive and how we will support them in becoming our future leaders.



Recipe for the Gold: Bringing out the BEST in your child this year!

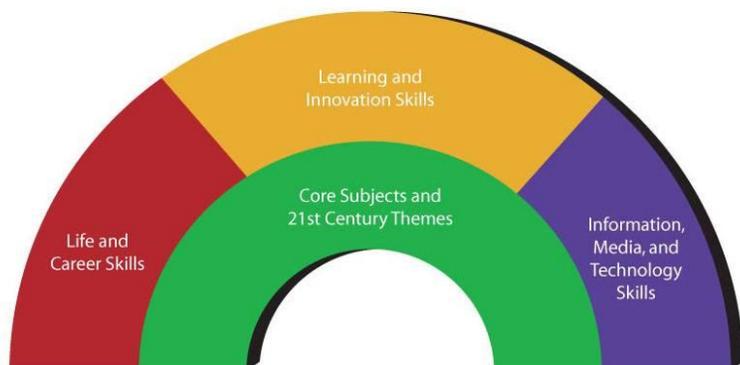


- **Establish a set bed-time** that lets your child feel well-rested in the morning.
- Diminish morning stress by having your child help **prepare what he/she can the night before** (pick out clothes, get breakfast/lunch money ready, pack healthy lunch, pack back pack)
- **Make sure your child is at school on time.** Being late can cause your child to feel rushed or stressed.

Common Core Standards

The Common Core Standards have been adopted by 46 states and territories, including Georgia. Georgia now refers to their state standards as CCGPS: Common Core Georgia Performance Standards. This is the most sweeping reform of K-12 objectives in US history. The CCGPS spell out what students should know and be able to do at the end of a school year. The course of study to enable the students to meet those standards is set by Georgia, Fulton County, and Barnwell Elementary.

There will be much more information regarding the CCGPS at Curriculum Night.





Character Trait of the Month:

Responsibility

Teachers, support staff, administrators and our counselor are spending a lot of time talking about what it means to be **responsible** inside and outside of class.

Car Talk

Considering using your time with your children in the car to discuss the same character traits we are reinforcing at school.

What does it mean to take **responsibility** for our own learning? How do you show **responsibility** at school? How do you show it at home? What are the rewards for being **responsible**? What happens when we struggle with being **responsible**?

Extending the conversation:

With younger children: Watch the recent Disney hit, *Tangled*, together. Talk about how Rapunzel decides to be **responsible** for her own life by leaving the tower. How was she responsible for her future?

With older children: Check out the hit film, *Akeelah and the Bee*. How did Akeelah take **responsibility** for her own learning as she prepared for the spelling bee.

For more ideas on reinforcing the character trait of **responsibility**, visit the website of our counselor, Jennifer Wilson.

<http://teachers.barnwellelementary.org/webpages/jwilson/>

Universal Screeners: What are they? What do they mean for your child(ren)?

Last year, the district wanted a common, comprehensive reading assessment that included all portions of a student's literacy strengths and weaknesses to be put in place. Each school decided between one of two universal screening assessments for reading. Barnwell will be using The Benchmark Assessment System or BAS.

The goal of the universal screener is to assess at multiple grade levels for age-appropriate skills to determined standards. Universal screening allows schools to not only capture a benchmark skill level but also to make informative decisions over time.

Your child will work with our Curriculum Support Teacher (CST) or a classroom teacher to complete the screener this fall.

For more information about the BAS, and its creators, Fountas and Pinnell, please visit

<http://www.heinemann.com/fountasandpinnell/reading-assessment.aspx>

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