Dear Families,

What a great couple of days we had here at AES. I hope you all had the opportunity to come to our Exceptional Children's Week show. If you didn't, you surely missed out on a wonderful performance. I am so proud of all our students. I always enjoy seeing our special friends performing for their friends, I am also impressed with the stories our students write about their special friends. It is so heartwarming to hear how our special friends touch the lives of all our students. Thank you so much to Kirby Carruth, our Music Therapist, and all the teachers and staff involved in this production. It was truly inspirational!

The votes have been cast and counted. The community has spoken and an overwhelming majority of votes approved the formation of a new Parent Teacher Organization. As I have said before, many of you will not notice a difference in the way our parents support the school. If you would like to be involved in this newly formed organization, please contact Nelton Gaertner, Christina Franke, or Shannon Wagar. They can be reached at friendsaesaes@yahoo.com. Thank you to everyone who came out to express their opinion. I appreciate you taking the time!

As I mentioned in my last communication, we are already in the planning stages for next year. One of the great unknowns in any year is kindergarten. There is really no way to predict how many kindergarten students will enroll. We have estimates, but until students enroll, we really do not know. We are holding our Kindergarten Round Up on March 27 at 8:30 a.m. Kindergarten Round Up is a time for students to come to the school and go into a Kindergarten classroom to see what Kindergarten will be like. Please share this information with your friends and neighbors. The number of students who come to this event gives us a good indication of the number of students we will be enrolling for the 2013-14 school year. In that same vein, Pre-Kindergarten registration will be March 20 from 8:00 - 2:00. We operate on a lottery system, but you will need to present all registration materials in order to be entered into the lottery.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend. I look forward to seeing all the smiling faces at our Tanner Photography event on Sunday, March 10.
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<tr>
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<td>March 11-17</td>
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<td>March 18-22</td>
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<td>March 22</td>
<td>AES Spring Carnival 4:30-8:00pm</td>
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<td>March 22</td>
<td>Report Cards Sent Home with Students</td>
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<td>March 25</td>
<td>Rising 6th Grade Tag Parents Meeting - AES Media Center 7:15am</td>
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<td>March 27</td>
<td>AES Kindergarten Round Up 8:30-9:30am</td>
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<td>March 28</td>
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<td>Grades K-5 Spring Registration - Front Confereance Rm 8am-4pm</td>
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<td>May 2</td>
<td>Grades K-5 Spring Registration - Front Confereance Rm 8am-7pm</td>
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Author Visit Celebrates Read Across America

Author, Danny Schnitzlein, visited Alpharetta Elementary Library Media Center, Friday, March 1st, in celebration of Read Across America and Dr. Seuss's birthday. Students from kindergarten through third grade attended Mr. Schnitzlein's presentation listening to the author read his books and learning about the writing and publishing process. The students also sang songs about reading, learned how to draw a monster and third grade participated in a writing workshop.

Fulton County Supporters of the Gifted announce their Spring Lecture:

"How Georgia's New Teacher Effectiveness Keys System Can Help Your Gifted Child"

Fulton County Supporters of the Gifted announce their Spring Lecture: "How Georgia's New Teacher Effectiveness Keys System Can Help Your Gifted Child"

This program will feature Dori Kleber, the owner and editor of the web site www.giftedatlanta.com, which provides information on gifted education enrichment, in-school gifted services and additional resources for raising gifted children. She has two gifted children in the DeKalb County School System. Dori's presentation will give an overview of the state's new Teacher Effectiveness Keys System and will explain how parents can use this system to advocate for their children's academic growth. The lectures, followed by a question and answer period, will be held at Westlake High School in Atlanta in the Media Center at 6PM on Tuesday, March 19th, and again at Independence High School in Alpharetta in the Media Center at 6PM on Thursday, March 21st. There is no charge for admission to these lectures and additional details and information on registration can be found at the FCSG web site at www.fultongifted.org. FCSG is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization totally staffed by volunteers dedicated to supporting gifted students and educators.

Contact: Ed Svitil, President, Fulton County Supporters of the Gifted

Say Cheese! Spring School Pictures

Spring school pictures will be taken on Thursday, March 28. Look for order envelopes to come home with your student in two weeks.

Placement Consideration for 2013-14 School Year

The time is quickly approaching when we will begin to prepare class groupings for the 2013-2014 school year. An enormous amount of time and effort is devoted to place each child appropriately.
If you feel that your child has unique learning needs or if there are other considerations you would like to bring to our attention such as separate best friends, or family/personal challenges, you may choose to complete the 2013-2014 Placement Consideration Form that is available in the front office. As you list the characteristics of a teacher you feel will best meet your child's needs, please do not list the obvious characteristics such as "organized, nurturing, structured, positive, motivating, challenging, creative," etc. We believe all our teachers possess the previously listed characteristics. The letters will be shared with your child's teacher in the fall in order to ensure your child's needs are thoroughly communicated.

While we do welcome your input regarding your child's individual learning needs, we cannot accept emails, phone calls, nor can we hold personal conferences regarding student placement. Due to changes in personnel and class sizes, some teachers will change grade levels and staff teaching assignments will not be finalized until summer. Forms that name specific teachers will not be considered.

Please keep in mind that placement consideration forms should be the exception rather than the rule, and the final decision on class placement resides with the school.

All placement consideration forms are due on or before March 29, 3pm. No forms will be accepted after the deadline. AES Placement Consideration Form should be returned to the front office in a sealed envelope to the attention of Michele McInnish, Curriculum Support Teacher.

Tanner Photography - $20.00 Family Portrait Offer

Tanner Photography supports Alpharetta Elementary School!

We would like to invite you to have your professional family portrait taken at the school on Sunday, March 10 at 10:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. A $20.00 portrait fee donated to Alpharetta Elementary School includes one 11"x14" family portrait ($65.00 value).

Don't miss out on this great photo opportunity! Please click on the attached form for details regarding the fundraiser photo and how you can participate. Say Cheese!!!

Pre-K Registration 2013-2014

Registration - Wednesday, March 20 from 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Items needed for Enrollment:
Immunization form 3231
Eye, Ear, and Dental form 3300
Certified copy of the Birth Certificate
Copy of the Social Security Card or waiver
Affidavit of Residence
2 Proofs of Residence (utility bill, lease, contract, etc.)

Children must turn 4 years old by September 1st.

Priority will be given to families living within our own school district.

For further information: Bright From the Start website
Enrollment packets will be available March 7th through the 20th in the front office. Registration forms must be turned into the office on Wednesday, March 20th from 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

**Kindergarten Round-Up**

For 2013-2014 Students!

We invite next year’s Alpharetta kindergarteners to join us for Kindergarten Round-Up **Wednesday, March 27th, 8:30-9:30 a.m.,** in the Alpharetta Elementary cafeteria! Parents should plan to come and bring their children who will attend Alpharetta Kindergarten in August 2013.

Parents will:

- Receive important curriculum and registration information
- See a “virtual tour” of a kindergarten classroom
- Sign up for a Kindergarten screening time

Incoming kindergartners will:

- Be treated to a brief guided tour of Alpharetta Elementary
- Board a stationary school bus in the parking lot
- Walk through the lunch line for cookies and milk

We look forward to meeting our newest Eagles!!

**Fulton County Elementary Schools Spring Registration May 1st and 2nd (Students New to AES Only)**

_Hours: 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Wed., May 1st_  
_8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., Thurs., May 2nd_  
_Grades K-5_

Bring to Registration:

- Official State Birth Certificate (Not Hospital Certificate)
- Georgia State Immunization Form (3231)
- Georgia State Hearing, Vision & Dental Screening Form (3300)
- Security Card (or copy)
- Affidavit of Residence
- Proof of Residency - (2) - (Contract or Lease, Utility Bill, Bank Statement, etc.)

Please share this information with interested friends and neighbors.

For further information, call  
Alpharetta Elementary School  
770-740-7015
Attention Parents of Rising Sixth Graders:

To help with the transition to middle school, Northwestern has set up the following Parent Meetings to be held at the middle school:

April 30 - Northwestern Middle School Rising 6th Grade Parent Information Meeting

6:00-6:30 PM - Parent Mixer
6:30-7:30 PM - Parent Meeting

Northwestern Middle School: 770-667-2870

PTA

Results of PTO Vote

Well, the votes are in and we're happy to report that the merger of the PTA and the Foundation and the move to a PTO has been approved.

We had a total of 96 votes with 100% being in favor of the proposed structure. On Day #1 we had 75 people that voted and on Day #2 there were 21 voters. 94% of the voters were PTA members.

Thank you to everyone who came out to the Informational Sessions, asked questions online and participated in the VOTE!!

Thank you,
Christina Franke, Shannon Wagar and Nelton Gaertner

Online School Directory - It's not too late!

Currently less than 50% of our families have participated in our on-line School Directory. The good news is that it is not too late to be a part of the directory! Please, enter your information as soon as possible so that you can be contacted for school information & events, parties, playmates, assignments and more! You only have to sign up once because your information will be retained from year to year!

How to Enroll:
To enroll, please go to the link below and follow the instructions. This is a secure form and you can print your submission for your records. It only takes a minute! http://bit.ly/MQIIZ82. After entering your information, please email us at aesdirectory@gmail.com so that we can activate your online access.

Once this has been completed, you should receive a confirmation email with instructions on how to setup your username and password. You can then access the directory using the following link:
Our School Directory is only as good as we make it by having as many parents/families enter their information so that we have all families represented. So please enroll today! If you have any questions, please contact us at aesdirectory@gmail.com.

AES Spring Carnival News

AES Spring Carnival  
Friday, March 22nd, 4:30 - 8:00pm

The carnival ticket and caricature forms should have arrived in your child’s folder today. Please take the opportunity to preorder your tickets! You will receive bonus tickets for ordering early and save time standing in lines on the day of the carnival.

Consider participating in the chili cook off and the cake decorating contest. The top two winners of each contest will receive a great prize. We are also looking for people to donate baked goods. Please package your goods into Ziploc bags and they will be sold for 50 cents each.

Thank you for your participation!

It’s Theme Basket Time!!!

The AES Carnival is just around the corner, and you know what that means ~ it’s THEME BASKET time! As in years past, each class will sponsor a “Theme Basket”. The theme for your child’s class basket is shown below.

We are asking each family to donate a new item in keeping with your class theme. For example, a "Great Outdoors" basket might include a football, camping equipment, a kite, picnic basket, a fishing pole, or anything else that would make for a great day in the outdoors! This is a great opportunity for you and your child to put your heads together and be creative. With 100% participation we will once again have awesome baskets!

Please send in your voluntary contribution to school with your child, or bring it to your child’s class (before or after school) no later than Wednesday, March 20th. Each teacher will have a container in the classroom to collect all the donations. All baskets will be assembled that week and once they are put together, items cannot be added.

In the past, many of you have donated some wonderful, creative containers in keeping with your classroom’s theme. If you would like to donate your classroom container such as a LARGE basket, cooler, wagon, garden container, etc. please let me or your Room Mom know as soon as possible. This event would not be a success without your generosity and creativity. Thank you so much for your participation.

Remember, the class who receives the most tickets will win a pizza party, and perhaps YOU will win one of the terrific baskets!
If you have any questions, please contact Emily Owens at e_d_colby@hotmail.com.

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<tr>
<td>Ludwig</td>
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<td>Reading Rocks</td>
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<td>Dahunsi</td>
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<td>Hadid</td>
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<td>Burns</td>
<td>American Girl</td>
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<td>Mooney</td>
<td>Gotta have a gift certificate - any</td>
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<td>Spring Into Shopping - gift cards</td>
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<td>Scott</td>
<td>iTunes Gift card</td>
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<td>Urquhart</td>
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<td>Miller</td>
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<td>Haight</td>
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<td>McCall/Corwin</td>
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<td>Moore/Yeager</td>
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<td>Special Education</td>
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<td>Bell</td>
<td>Father and Son</td>
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<td>Bendit</td>
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<td>Cox</td>
<td>Father and Son</td>
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Goldsmith/Cheatham Super Heros
Gordon Father and Son
McClain/McLane Father and Son
Pokallus Super Heros
Ray Father and Son
Scoggins Father and Son
Shettle Father and Son
Sieling Father and Son

If you have any questions, please contact Trish Watkins at watkins_trish@yahoo.com.

Family Nights

Please mark your calendars for some fun and tasty nights that give back to our school.

Mar. 11th - 17th - Menchie’s week is here! Remember to bring your flyer, & 20% of your purchase will be returned to AES!
Mar. 14th - Chick-Fil-A Which class will win a chicken nugget party? Which teachers will be there? Why, look for these wonderful teachers: Ms. Wardrop, Ms. Kehrli, Ms. Bell, Ms. Brooks. Ms. Pokallus, & Mr. Witt. Please remember to sign in.
Mar. 18th - Zaxby’s
Mar. 22nd - Carnival
Mar. 26th - California Pizza Kitchen

Please remember to check out our website for a list of all our fantastic partners and the latest information: www.alpharettaelementarypta.org

Community Events

2013 Milton Junior Eagle Football - Parent Info Meeting

Monday, March 11th @ 6:30 p.m.
Milton High School Auxiliary Gym

Open to Rising 6-8 Graders
(Must be zoned for Milton HS District)

Please join us for our information meeting to discuss the 2013 feeder football program and season. Registration information, coaches, and program updates will be discussed.

Please visit our Website: www.miltonjunioreagles.com for registration fees, to register online and for further information.

7th Annual "It's Just Hair" Cut-a-thon

Do you have long hair? Please consider donating your locks for the 7th Annual "It's Just Hair" cut-a-thon to benefit Locks of Love and children with long-term medical
hair loss. Most of the children who benefit have lost their hair due to an autoimmune disease called Alopecia Areata, a highly unpredictable disease that can cause hair loss in patches or total hair loss including eyebrows and eyelashes. The cut-a-thon will take place on Monday, May 20, 2013 at Taylor Brooks Salon in Alpharetta. Hair must be at least ten inches and cuts and styles are complimentary. Please contact Diane Cooley to register or for more information at itsjusthair@gmail.com or 678-521-5639.