



# Alpharetta Elementary Eagle Wings



*Soaring with Alpharetta Attitude - Ready, Respectful, Responsible*

*Patricia Reed—Principal*

*Andy Allison - Assistant Principal*

**From the Desk of  
The Fourth Grade  
Teachers**

**May We Help?  
Feel Free to Call Us  
770-740-7015**

- CST**  
Michele McInnish Ext. 135
- IST**  
Mary Natelli Ext. 125
- Counselor**  
Amanda Fischer Ext. 128
- Cafeteria Manager**  
Vickye Monger Ext. 160
- Data Clerk**  
Lisa Hawks Ext. 132
- Clinic**  
Peggy Lloyd Ext. 134
- Media Specialist**  
Ann Schaub Ext. 150
- Principal's Secretary/Bookkeeper**  
Pam Ferguson Ext. 127



As children become older readers, parents have the tendency to expect their student to independently complete their reading assignments. Many parents set up a special nook for homework completion, send their child to the nook with orders not to return until the home work is finished, and then the parent awaits the child's return. While this may not be a bad strategy for math homework, it is a counterproductive strategy for most of the homework that requires reading.

Silent reading is a wonderful tool in developing reading ability, but it should not be the only way a student reads at home. Listening to your child read aloud to you may be the single most important tool a parent can wield to improve reading comprehension by their student. Here's why:

- Silent reading allows students to read too quickly causing the reader to frequently miss the main idea in the passage.
- Silent readers tend to ignore punctuation, and word groupings, thus the content gets muddled and comprehension decreases.
- Silent reading does not teach a child to read with expression, to read with voice inflections, or to adjust the rate of reading as the content requires.
- Silent reading doesn't encourage children to listen to themselves as they read. When children read aloud it teaches them to hear and then correct their errors. It ensures that the reading makes sense to them.
- Silent reading allows children to build and maintain bad vocabulary habits. When reading silently, a mispronunciation can greatly impact comprehension. Reading out loud to a parent allows the parent to correct a mispronunciation which improves comprehension and allows for the chance to make the connection between the written word and the oral word.
- Also silent reading allows children to skip words they do not know. When a child is reading silently to himself or to herself we do not know if the child rereads the passage for meaning or even if the child tries to figure out the unknown word.

Many grades at Alpharetta Elementary set a minimum 'read at home nightly' goal. In the fourth grade we expect students to read at home for no less than twenty minutes a day. Why not let your child read aloud to you for half those minutes a day? Remember, listening to your child read aloud is free. It is certainly convenient as you always have your ears with you and you can listen anywhere. Finally, your student's reading comprehension skills will grow and academic performance will increase.

## No Eagle Wings Next Week

**A friendly reminder that all articles for Eagle Wings are due every week by Tuesday noon.**

**AES Business Partner  
of the Week**



480 North Main Street, Ste 212  
Alpharetta GA 30009  
[www.rispa.net](http://www.rispa.net)  
678.620.3500



Nov. 24-26	Thanksgiving Holidays
Dec. 2-3	Artome Framing Day
Dec. 2	Art Reflections Breakfast—Media Center 7:15-7:45am
Dec. 3-7	Box Top Collection
Dec. 7	PTA Executive Board Meeting—Conference Room—9:15-10:30 am
	Chick-fil-A Family Night
Dec. 14	Special Friends Holiday Caroling—9:15-12:30
	Katie Reeves' Community Meeting—Webb Bridge MS—9:30-11:00
Dec. 21	PK, K 1 & 2 Holiday Parties
Dec. 22	3, 4 & 5 Holiday Parties
Dec. 23 – Jan 4	Winter Holidays
Jan 5	1st day of Second Semester

## Mark Your Calendar for AES Events



The Fulton County Board of Education has adopted the school calendar for the next school year. If you would like to view a copy of the 2011-2012 calendar, please log onto the Fulton County website at [www.fultonschools.org](http://www.fultonschools.org) and click on the "Calendar" link on the left side of the page.

According to AES Student Handbook— "In order for a student to ride a different bus (**for Childcare purposes only**) or get off at another stop, parents must send a note to the front office or contact the North Transportation Department at 770-667-2970 for approval."

### Second Annual Coat Drive at AES

Last year's coat drive was so successful, we are going to do it again! We have quite a few families in need of winter coats this year. Please consider donating new or gently used winter coats to the counseling office (coats only please). Coats will be accepted in all sizes from infants to adults. Donations can be dropped off in the front office between November 29<sup>th</sup>-December 10<sup>th</sup>. Any coats not distributed to AES families will be donated to North Fulton Charities. If you would like to sponsor a child or family by purchasing coats, please contact Amanda Fischer in the counseling office at (770) 740-7015 ext. 128 or via email at [fischera@fultonschools.org](mailto:fischera@fultonschools.org) for more information.



Congratulations AES! Our Canned Food Drive has ended and we have exceeded our goal of 2011 donations. We have collected 2177 items for the week. Ms. Spartz class came in 3rd place, Ms. Williams, class is the 2nd place winner and Ms. Eineker's 5th grade class takes 1st place with 501 donations. Way to go! Thank you all for a successful food drive.



### AES 2010 Holiday Giving



Once again, our school will be supporting North Fulton Community Charities this holiday season. Their greatest need this year is for **new, unwrapped toys** for their Santa Shop. We will be conducting a toy drive from **Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>-Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>**. Items can be brought to your child's classroom. Please visit the organization website at [http://www.nfccholiday.org/index\\_files/Page429.htm](http://www.nfccholiday.org/index_files/Page429.htm) for gift ideas and more information about the needs.



Please note that the toy drive will end on Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. Our fifth graders will be earning service hours collecting, sorting, and packing up the toys for delivery to North Fulton Community Charities.

AES will also be providing food items to our own families in need this holiday season. If you are interested in assisting with this or would like to be included in the program, please contact our school counselor, Ms. Amanda Fischer, at (770) 740-7015 or [fischera@fultonschools.org](mailto:fischera@fultonschools.org).



In an effort to help all of AES "Catch the Wave" our fifth grade sponsored a Candy Drive the week after Halloween.

Thank you to the over 175 participants who helped AES donate 550 pounds of candy that will be sent to our troops over seas!

In addition to the candy donations, some AES students spent time on Veterans Day writing letters to our troops.

Letters and candy were delivered to Ft. McPherson and will be appreciated by our heroes!!

Check out the photos from this event on the PTA website:

[www.AlpharettaElementaryPTA.org](http://www.AlpharettaElementaryPTA.org)



**Be sure to check out our on-line calendar at [www.fultonschools.org/school/alpharetta](http://www.fultonschools.org/school/alpharetta) as well as the PTA website at <http://alpharettaelementarypta.org>**



AES Parents -- the next time you're visiting our school, please stop by and check out our **brand new school teaching gardens**. They are located as follows:

#### Outdoor Classroom Area

If you exit the back doors of the Media Center and take a right outside, you will see 4 new raised garden beds. Thanks to help from Ms. Eineker's 5th grade class, we are currently growing winter greens in 1 bed (look for sprouts in the next 2 weeks!) and strawberries and root vegetables in another. A larger-scale planting is in the works for Spring!

#### Special Ed Wing

Arugula, swiss chard, fresh herbs -- thanks to the wonderful help from Ms. Menzies class, Special Ed is growing their very own salad garden in the outdoor cafe area of the Special Ed wing. A tasting party is planned soon!

#### 2nd Grade Grow Labs

As a tie in with their current science unit, our 2nd grade classes are busy at work growing lettuce, baby carrots, beets and radishes in a specially designed indoor grow lab. They'll enjoy the fruits of their labor with their own salad tasting party in December. (Complete with homegrown zinnias and marigolds for decoration!) In just a few short weeks, the seeds they planted have already sprouted into baby plants! Come see for yourselves in the multipurpose room located on the 2nd grade wing.

A huge thank you goes out to Whole Foods Market and Farmer D Organics for making these projects possible as well as the support from the entire AES staff!

### **SPRING YOUTH SPORTS LEAGUE REGISTRATION BEGINS**



Don't miss the opportunity to register your children for Spring Sports in Alpharetta! The City of Alpharetta Recreation and Parks Department offers registration for City residents beginning November 16th.

Registration is available online for spring baseball, soccer, lacrosse, and roller hockey. Teams are formed at various age levels. Practices begin in February. Games are played March through May. For more information, visit [www.arpdathletics.org](http://www.arpdathletics.org) or email [athleticprograms@alpharetta.ga.us](mailto:athleticprograms@alpharetta.ga.us). The City of Alpharetta's partner Youth Athletic Associations, Wills Park Youth Baseball Association and Alpharetta Youth Softball Association, will begin spring registration soon. For more information on these programs, please visit their websites. [www.wpyba.org](http://www.wpyba.org) and [www.alpharettasoftball.com](http://www.alpharettasoftball.com)

### **Thanks for the Great Book Fair!**



Although we have only one and a half days left for Book Fair, the Media Center wishes to thank all students, parents, and staff for their wonderful support of our "Here's To Our Heroes - Reading Saves the Day" Book Fair. Thanks to your support, this fall's Book Fair has been extremely successful and the proceeds will be used to expand reading choices for our students and further enhance the Accelerated Reader program.

I also want to thank all those who made the Book Fair possible. A big "thank you" to our outstanding decorating team - Allie Charlesworth and Jennifer Burnett, who made our Book Fair a special place for our students and families to visit. Thanks to Bernie Przysiecki for coordinating our volunteers. We also greatly appreciate all our volunteers who worked so diligently during the Book Fair and kept everything running smoothly. We could not do all we do for the kids without you!

The Book Fair will be continue to be open Monday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> from 8 am - 3 pm and Tuesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> until 12 noon. Thank you for all your support .

There is still a need for volunteers for the Junior Achievement program for AES starting second semester. If you would like to volunteer your time please contact Denise Foster at 201-841-5363.



### Shopping at Amazon.com

During the holidays, don't forget to start your Amazon.com shopping from the **Amazon search engine on the PTA website** sidebar, and AES earns up to 7% of your purchase. [www.AlpharettaElementaryPTA.org](http://www.AlpharettaElementaryPTA.org). The more you spend, the more we earn! Look for special Black Friday deals!



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www.artome.com  
Live with art. Love your home.

### Shop the Artomé "Custom Framing Day" onsite at AES: Thursday, December 2nd

Sprucing up the house for a holiday party? Need a special gift, photo or artwork framed in time for the holidays? Look no further. With our on site Artomé Framing Day, we make framing convenient and affordable.

Backed by the Best Price Promise, we guarantee that the price you pay at Artomé is the lowest available in the market for each product. If you find the same product at a lower price, let us know and we'll match the price. \* We want you to be 100% satisfied with your purchase so shop with confidence at Artomé.

**\*\* AES staff receives a 10% discount!\*\***



### Original Works Late Orders Due Back Monday!

AES Families, don't forget-We will be mailing the late and final order on Monday, November 22, 2010. **No orders will be accepted after that date.**

These late orders will be delivered in January after the winter break, perfect for spring gift-giving occasions. To order, follow the instructions on the green price list that was included in your child's Original Works packet. Include the artwork, payment by check or with cash, and your completed order form. All orders can be delivered to Mrs. Hambrick in the art room or the school office.

### AES Scrip Gift Cards !!!

**The gift giving season is quickly approaching!! Don't wait until the last minute.....**

- November 1 – December 10

Download a [Gift Card Order Form](#) now!!

View the [Master Gift Card List](#). Write retailer and dollar amount on blank line of above order form.



Purchase store gift cards **at face value** from AES PTA and AES earns a percentage of the purchase. Called "scrip", the program allows AES families to purchase cards as gifts or where you commonly shop. AES earns a percentage of the card at no expense to you! Hundreds of store cards available: AMC Theaters, Barnes & Noble, Kohl's, Wal-Mart, Starbucks, ToysRUs, Claire's, Lowe's, and many more...

Final orders are due by Friday, December 10th for delivery to you by December 17th. Orders can be placed weekly based on volume of orders and desired delivery date. If you need your gift cards by a certain date, please annotate on the order form. Questions? Contact [Stacey DiMarco](#).

