



The Parent Post

Facilitating Family School Partnerships

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Welcome to The Parent Post! This newsletter is published four times per year for students and families of the Douglas County School System. For more information, please visit dcssga.org or contact Patti Sullivan at (770) 651-2118 or email patti.sullivan@dcssga.org

Continue Learning over the Holiday Break

By Patti Sullivan, Family Engagement Specialist, Douglas County School System

There are many opportunities to keep your child(ren) learning while they are out on the holiday break. Here are a few:

- * For younger children, here are many holiday books that can be shared together. Whether you celebrate Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or Christmas, there are dozens of stories related to these holidays. Your local library is a great resource for these kind of books.
- * Enlist your child’s help in the kitchen. Look over recipes in cook books or online. Have your child read the recipes, then decide together which recipes to try. You can also use the recipe to practice math facts and fractions.
- * Do you receive holiday cards from friends and family? If so, have your child read these cards out loud to you and the rest of your family.
- * Have a Family game night. There are lots of games that will help your children practice all the subjects that they are learning in school. Card games and other games with dice can help younger students count. Trivia games (like Trivial Pursuit or Cranium) can help all students with social studies, history, science, reading and math.
- * Did your child(ren) get a gift or gifts over the break? They can practice their writing by writing thank you cards or even thank you emails.
- * Host a family debate. You can pose simple questions (such as, what is the best holiday?) and ask each family member to state their opinion and give reasons to support their opinion.

Building a Tradition of Literacy

By Connie Railey, Media Clerk, North Douglas Elementary School

The holidays are a great time to build new traditions. With the days getting shorter, the air becoming more crisp, so you begin looking for some amazing activities to do as a family; consider building a tradition of literacy. In a study by Scholastic, 85% of children find the time spent being read a story “special”. Not only can reading aloud to your kid build beautiful memories, it can also improve their standardized test scores. According to Pew Research Center “half of 9-year-old students who scored at or above the 75th percentile on the 2020 reading component of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) reported reading for fun on their own time almost every day, compared with 39% of 9-year-old students who scored below the 25th percentile.” On those chilly rainy Saturday mornings, or on those hectic snow days, or simply the night before Christmas; pick a book with your child, cozy up with a sugar cookie, and start a tradition of reading.

Mr. Trent North
Superintendent

Douglas County
School System
Board of
Education

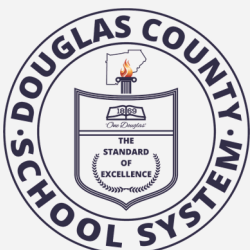
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Enjoy a Bilingual Holiday Break!

By Julie King, ESOL Teacher, Annette Winn Elementary School

The approaching holidays bring excitement along with the knowledge that the school year is halfway over! Our English Learners (ELs) have made so much progress this year. Of course we want students to continue learning, even as they enjoy a holiday break. ELs can continue working on Lexia Reading Core5 or Lexia Power Up during the break from school, and of course students should continue to read every day. But there are other ways parents and family members can help our English Learners continue to grow academically.

Although we want our students to use their English speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills; we also want them to continue using their native language. Please continue to speak to your children in their first language, and encourage them to use this language as well. Having conversations in any language improves your English Learner's vocabulary. Growing your child's vocabulary will improve reading and writing skills. We want our students to be Bilingual Superheroes, so help them use those native language skills and English skills at home!

Reading is the single greatest way for any student to make academic progress in school. Your child's reading abilities also affect his or her performance in other subjects, from math to science! Both reading to your child and encouraging your child to read can improve your child's reading skills. If you are able to read to your child in your Native language, this is actually very beneficial for English Learners. The public libraries have books in multiple languages. The [epic books website](#) also has books in English, Spanish, French, and Chinese. Another site, [ellstudents.com](#), offers a list of free books in a variety of languages.

The ESOL teachers appreciate your help and support as we work together to help our English Learners achieve great things! Have a safe and happy holiday season!

Resources for Parents of English Learners!

The Douglas County School System has posted new resources for parents of English Learners on our website. Our goal is to provide effective outreach to parents of our English Learners and to assist them in being involved in their child's education. Please visit our website [here](#) or scan this QR code to access the website with the resources listed.



TECH CORNER
web resources for YOU!

Homework Web Resources

[FACT MONSTER - Homework Help & Study Tips](#)

This website is part of the Sandbox Learning family of educational and reference sites for parents, teachers and students. It groups resources by subject area allowing students and/or parents to easily navigate the site.

[KHAN ACADEMY](#)

This is a very comprehensive resource to help parents research information for their own use or to help guide their child through their homework. This site does require signing up for a free account.

[WONDEROPOLIS](#)

This is a non-profit website that answer all sorts of questions submitted by children with a focus on k-8 science and social studies.



U P C O M I N G T I T L E I W O R K S H O P S

Parents of children being served with Title I funds may attend any workshop, regardless of location. Please check the schedule to determine if parent workshops will be virtual or in-person. For additional information, please contact your child's school at the listed phone numbers below.

Annette Winn Elementary School Parent Resource Center

3536 Bankhead Highway, Lithia Springs, GA 30122
(770) 651-3100 awes.dcssga.org

APTT Meeting #2

Tuesday, January 24, 2023 at 6:00 PM (grades k-2)
Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 6:00 PM (grades 3-5)
Grades K through 5 will meet with the parents of their child's homeroom to discuss data based on foundational skills they have chosen. They will then create and practice activities to work with their children at home and discuss goals for APTT meeting #3.

Beulah Elementary School Parent Resource Center

1150 Burnt Hickory Road, Douglasville, GA 30134
(770) 651-3300 bees.dcssga.org

Math Mania Night (IN-PERSON)

Monday, January 23, 2023 at 6:00 PM
Come and celebrate the 100th day of school with us! Enjoy a "hands-on" math extravaganza filled with fun, games, and activities!

Bright Star Elementary School Parent Resource Center

6300 John West Road, Douglasville, GA 30134
(770) 651-3400 bses.dcssga.org

International Wax Museum (IN-PERSON)

Thursday, February 16, 2023 at 5:00 PM
This event will feature students dressed up as influential people in history, from around the world. The students will share facts about their person and how they have made a positive impact in the life of others.

Burnett Elementary School Parent Resource Center

8277 Connally Drive, Douglasville, GA 30134
(770) 651-3500 bues.dcssga.org

Safety and Discipline Matters (VIRTUAL)

Monday, December 19, 2022 at 6:30 PM
All students deserve access to a welcoming, supportive, and safe learning environment. To set students up for success, Burnett strives to create a climate that meets the social, emotional, behavioral, and mental health needs of the students we serve. Equally as important is promoting the protection of all students from violence, weapons, and bullying in our school. Join us to learn more.

Chestnut Log Middle School Parent Resource Center

2544 Pope Road, Douglasville, GA 30135
(770) 651-5100 clms.dcssga.org

Math, Science and STEM Night

Monday, January 9, 2023 at 10:00 AM (VIRTUAL) and 6:00 PM (IN-PERSON)
The Math, Science and Stem night will focus on the importance of each of these subjects and how they can be used in your everyday life.

Eastside Elementary School Parent Resource Center

8266 Connally Drive, Douglasville, GA 30134
(770) 651-3800 eses.dcssga.org

Math Night (IN-PERSON)

Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 5:30 PM
Our teachers are excited about the upcoming Math Night, because they will have the opportunity to share how students are performing in the area of math based on data from a variety of assessments. The parents will have an opportunity to ask questions on how they can help their child at home. Once the questions are answered, the teacher and the parents will discuss resources and strategies on how they can support the child's learning at home.

Factory Shoals Elementary School Parent Resource Center

2375 Mount Vernon Road, Lithia Springs, GA 30122
(770) 651-3900 fses.dcssga.org

FSES School Climate, Safety and Discipline Meeting (VIRTUAL)

Wednesday, January 11, 2023 at 5:30 PM
The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the current school climate, discipline and safety procedures and trends at Factory Shoals Elementary.

STEM/Science Fair Night (IN-PERSON)

Tuesday, February 7, 2023 at 6:00 PM
The purpose of this event is to learn all about STEM! There is STEM all around us. Participants will be able to make several STEM activities, see all of the Science Fair projects and find out who won the Science Fair for 2023 for FSES.

Lithia Springs Elementary School Parent Resource Center

6946 Florence Drive, Lithia Springs, GA 30122
(770) 651-4100 lses.dcssga.org

Math Night (IN-PERSON)

Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 6:00 PM
Come join LSES for our Math Night! There will be fun games and activities for parents to participate in with their students.

Mt. Carmel Elementary School Parent Resource Center

2356 Fairburn Road, Douglasville, GA 30135
(770) 651-4200 mces.dcssga.org

Where Are We Now? (VIRTUAL)

Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 6:30 PM
Join as we review the data from the first semester.

Math Winter Wonderland (IN-PERSON)

Thursday, December 15, 2022 at 5:30 PM
Parents are invited to attend an evening of mathematics filled with hot cocoa, snowmen, and everything winter. Families will participate in interactive and engaging activities that can be easily transferred from the classroom to home.

Stewart Middle School Parent Resource Center

8138 Malone Street, Douglasville, GA 30134
(770) 651-5400 sms.dcssga.org

GA Milestones and Test Prep (VIRTUAL)

Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 6:00 PM
At this meeting, we will learn about important test taking strategies, preparation tips, and uses of testing outcomes as we prepare for End of Grade/ Milestone testing.

Sweetwater Elementary School Parent Resource Center

2505 East County Line Road, Lithia Springs, GA 30122
(770) 651-4600 swes.dcssga.org

Technology Talk (VIRTUAL)

Thursday, February 2, 2023 at 5:30 PM
Friday, February 3, 2023 at 12:00 PM
Join us as we discuss the safety of using the internet. We will also talk about all of the different apps that the children use and what parents should be looking out for and ways for parents to keep the student safe.

Visit YOUR Title I Parent Resource Center Today!

U P C O M I N G P A R E N T W O R K S H O P S

Please check the schedule to determine if parent workshops will be virtual or in-person. For additional information, please contact your child's school at the listed phone numbers below or visit the school website.

Arbor Station Elementary School

9999 Parkway South, Douglasville, GA 30135
(770) 651-3000 ases.dcssga.org

Social Studies Night: Holidays Around the World (IN-PERSON)

Thursday, December 15, 2022 at 6:00 PM

Each grade level will have engaging activities that represent a different country. All Arbor Station students attending will receive a free book from Books-A-Million Douglasville, passport and a stamp when they complete the activities. Fun times while learning about other countries will be had by all.

Bill Arp Elementary School

6550 Alexander Parkway, Douglasville, GA 30135
(770) 651-3200 baes.dcssga.org

Math Night (IN-PERSON)

Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Parents will receive information about current and new math standards from the Georgia Department of Education, and will be exposed to different instructional methods their students use to learn these skills.

Chapel Hill Elementary School

4433 Coursey Lake Road, Douglasville, GA 30135
(770) 651-3600 ches.dcssga.org

Chapel Hill ES Discipline (VIRTUAL)

Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 10:00 am

Cheetahs, join us as we review our building safety protocols, discipline data, CKH and our school-wide PAWS positive behavior system.

Math Night (IN-PERSON)

Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 5:30 pm

You are cordially invited to attend Chapel Hill Elementary's Spring Math Night. This will be a fun-filled evening where you will learn ways to reinforce math skills through playing games.

Dorsett Shoals Elementary School

5866 Dorsett Shoals Road, Douglasville, GA 30135
(770) 651-3700 dses.dcssga.org

STEM Night (IN-PERSON)

February 16, 2023 at 6:00 PM

This community event will allow students, parents, teachers, and caregivers an opportunity to participate together in the excitement of STEM activities. The STEM activities will be provided by the Georgia Youth Science & Technology Center (GYSTC) and will include something of interest for everyone.

Factory Shoals Middle School

3301 Shoals School Road, Douglasville, GA 30135
(770) 651-5800 fms.dcssga.org

FSMS Academic Night: Math and Science (VIRTUAL)

Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Families will learn about middle school math and science standards and how to incorporate them into everyday activities.

Holly Springs Elementary School

4909 West Chapel Hill Road, Douglasville, GA 30135
(770) 651-4000 hses.dcssga.org

Literacy Night (IN-PERSON)

Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 4:30 PM

Join us in attending a literacy night filled with fun and parent support in all things literacy! We will have Grade Level Scavenger Hunt in the Cafeteria, Parent Literacy University in the Media Center, and Bingo for Books. All attendees are welcome to hot chocolate as they participate in the activities.

GMAS Night (VIRTUAL and IN-PERSON)

Thursday, February 16, 2023 at 5:30 PM

At this meeting we will provide information on how well students are mastering state adopted content standards, provide parents information about their child's learning and progress, and provide information that will assist in improving school and program effectiveness.

Mason Creek Middle School

7777 Mason Creek Road, Winston, GA 30187
(770) 651-2500 mcms.dcssga.org

Safety and Discipline 101 at MCMS (VIRTUAL)

Wednesday, December 14, 2022 at 10:00 AM

Parents will hear from MCMS administrators on the school wide discipline plan, behavior expectations, and safety procedures and protocols that are followed at MCMS. Administrators will be available to answer frequently asked questions regarding parent concerns of bullying, classroom disruptions and overall school safety. This meeting will be recorded with viewing access and instructions posted on the school website.

South Douglas Elementary School

8299 Highway 166, Douglasville, GA 30135
(770) 651-4500 sdes.dcssga.org

Math and ELA Night (IN-PERSON)

Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Come out and enjoy Math and ELA games that the whole family can play.

Winston Elementary School

13691 Veterans Memorial Hwy, Winston, GA 30187
(770) 651-4700 wes.dcssga.org

WES Game Night (IN-PERSON)

Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 6:00 PM

From math, to reading and writing, and even science experiments, what better way to help your student learn than Parent Game Night. We will have some fun playing games and even making games to take home that will help your students learn.



Upcoming Important Dates

December 16
December 19-January 3
January 4
January 5
January 16

Semester ends
Student Holidays
Students return; 2nd semester begins
Report cards issued, all levels
Student Holiday

