



Eagle News

September 11, 2023 - www.hfeeaglealliance.org

Dear Heards Ferry Families,

Welcome to a new school year! Whether this is your first year or your eleventh (I'm looking at you Welch family!), we're so glad you're here. My oldest daughter started Ridgeview Charter Middle School this fall, and the principal offered students this simple but powerful advice: get involved. Try out for a team, learn an instrument, join a club - these actions will help you create community in a new place.

In the pages of this newsletter you will see opportunities to pitch in and connect. Sign up for [Lunch Bunch](#), volunteer in your child's class during [STEM Day](#), join a committee on the [Eagle Alliance board](#) - help us grow the amazing community that is Heards Ferry!

We love learning with you and appreciate your support of HFE!

[Brooke Brown](#)

Eagle Alliance Co-President

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Calendar Highlights

September

14 Sunshine Committee (5th Grade)
15 Deadline for Birthday Book Club
15 Hispanic Heritage Month Begins
15 HFE School Tour
18 Deadline for Yearbook Cover Art Contest
18-20 Food Drive for Solidarity Sandy Springs

20 STEM Day
25 Student Government Applications Due (4th and 5th Grade)
26 College Spirit Day
27 HFE Spirit Night at Mojave
29 No Place for Hate Application Deadline (4th Grade)

October

4 Fall Picture Day
6 HFE Spirit Day
6 HFE School tour
9-11 Fall Break
17 HFE Spirit Day at Breadwinner
20 Sunshine Committee Event (4th Grade)

20 Mother/Son Date Night
23-27 Red Ribbon Week
25 Eagle Alliance Meeting
25 New Parent Coffee with Principal Nash
25 HFE Spirit Night at City BBQ
31 Storybook Character Day

New School Year Checklist

Make Sure You Don't Miss Any HFE Updates!

The monthly newsletter goes to the entire school, but did you know there are other communications that only go to families who have set up profiles on the Eagle Alliance website? Please make sure you have a family profile set up on the [EA website](#) so that you do not miss out on the weekly "In the Nest" emails as well as certain grade-level communications that may come out between newsletters. If you already have a profile, please be sure to update the current teacher for your student for the 2023-2024 school year.

Support the Eagle Alliance



While you are updating your profile, if you have not already joined the Eagle Alliance for the 2023-2024 school year, we encourage you to do so. The Eagle Alliance is a key partner in making HFE a great place to grow! Nearly every single academic program at HFE receives some level of support from the Eagle Alliance. Click [HERE](#) and join today!

Complete Your Annual Volunteer Training

If you are coming to HFE to volunteer in ANY capacity, be sure to complete the Fulton County Schools [volunteer training](#). You may not enter the school to volunteer without having completed this training, which consists of a video and a short quiz. You will then receive a confirmation email that your training is complete. If after a day or two you do not receive the confirmation email, please follow up with FCS as you may not yet be cleared to volunteer. We are so happy to have volunteers at school and do not want you to get turned away!

Set Up Your Infinite Campus Account

The Infinite Campus parent portal, Campus Parent, provides access to information for all enrolled students in your household. Information includes grades, attendance, assignments, and school announcements. If you do not have an account, please go [here](#) to set up your account. If you have questions please reach out to [Heather Klinzing](#).



Sign Up for HFE Partner Rebate Programs

Consider signing up with HFE's Partner Rebate Programs, an easy way to generate funds for the school with shopping you're already doing. If you're shopping at Publix, Kroger, Box Tops, or Mabel's Labels, please make sure a portion of your purchases are being donated back to HFE. Visit our [Rebates page](#) for details on how to get started.

Donate to the Teacher/Staff Gift Fund

The Teacher/Staff Gift Fund is open for donations. These contributions fund mid and end of year gifts for the more than 100 HFE homeroom and specials teachers, custodial, cafeteria and office staff. Click [HERE](#) for additional details.

Consider Becoming a Partner In Education

Eagle Partners are local businesses committed to enriching education for our HFE students. These businesses donate funds, goods and services that enhance our school's learning environment beyond what public funds provide. If you know of a business that might be a match for HFE, find more info [HERE](#).

Review the FCS Student Code of Conduct

Fulton County Schools' Student Code of Conduct & Discipline Handbook is available online in PDF format [HERE](#). Once you have read the electronic version and have reviewed the contents with your students, please take a moment to complete the Acknowledgement of Receipt Form by using the Infinite Campus' Parent Portal (see instructions [HERE](#)). **All parents, and students over 10 years old, MUST sign this form.** If you would like a paper copy of the Handbook, you or your student can pick up one in your school's front office.

Birthday Book Club - Deadline 9/15

The Birthday Book Club allows your child to donate a new book to the HFE Media Center. This can be your child's legacy to HFE, and it's a great way to start a conversation about giving back. Order [HERE](#) by September 15th.



The poster features a light beige background with colorful illustrations of a birthday cake with three lit candles, a stack of books, and a yellow star. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout. At the top right, it says 'HFE MEDIA CENTER BIRTHDAY'. Below that, 'BOOK CLUB' is written in large, bold letters. A QR code is prominently displayed on the left side. The bottom right corner features a deadline: 'DEADLINE TO ORDER SEPTEMBER 15TH'.

HFE MEDIA CENTER
BIRTHDAY

BOOK CLUB

CELEBRATE YOUR BIRTHDAY AND CHOOSE A BOOK TO ADD TO THE HFE MEDIA CENTER

CHOOSE A BOOK DURING BIRTHDAY MONTH

*JULY AND AUGUST CELEBRATE IN SEPTEMBER
*JUNE WILL CELEBRATE IN MAY

PLACE A PERSONALIZED LABEL INSIDE

BE THE FIRST TO CHECK OUT YOUR BOOK!

DEADLINE TO ORDER
SEPTEMBER 15TH

SCAN QR CODE OR GO TO
[HTTPS://HFEEAGLEALLIANCE.MEMBER-SHIPTOOLKIT.COM/PACKET/72304](https://hfefeeaglealliance.member-shiptoolkit.com/packet/72304)

Yearbook Cover Art Contest - Deadline 9/18

All students are invited to enter a drawing in the yearbook cover art contest. The theme is “Happy Campers at HFE” One winner will be selected and their drawing will be featured on the yearbook cover. Details can be found [HERE](#). Entries are due no later than September 18.



HFE Food Drive - 9/18-9/20

As part of our IB Program, our students take action to help others. The HFE community will hold its first collection drive of the school year from Monday, September 18 through Wednesday, September 20. We will be collecting items during morning carpool to help stock the [Solidarity Sandy Springs](#) food pantry, which supports families in need in our city. The biggest needs for Solidarity right now are fruit products. These include canned fruits, individual fruit cups, and applesauce pouches.



We're also looking for volunteers to help during morning arrival. Sign up [HERE!](#)

HFE STEM Day - 9/20

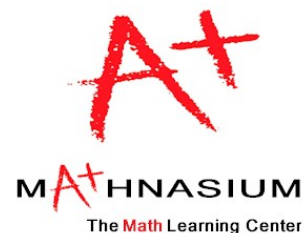


STEM Day is coming up on Wednesday, September 20! This annual event is a school-wide favorite because it enables students to engineer, test, and retest their ideas based on experimentation. Volunteers are needed across all grade levels to make this day of hands-on learning a success. We still have opportunities to participate, so check out the volunteer sign-up [HERE](#).

And don't forget to complete your FCS Volunteer Training because only approved volunteers are allowed in the building.

STEM Day Presenting Sponsor: Mathnasium

Mathnasium of Sandy Springs is changing lives through math with personalized learning plans and face-to-face instruction for children K-12. Call today to schedule your risk-free assessment and begin your student's journey to loving math!



HFE Student Government - Application Deadline 9/25

Student Government election season is underway! Visit [this website](#) to learn more about the process. Please note that all 4th and 5th grade students will participate in an information session, so they should be familiar with how to apply. The deadline to submit applications is September 25th.

No Place For Hate - Application Deadline 9/29

Heards Ferry has been officially designated as a [No Place For Hate](#) school for the last three school years and is very excited to announce that it will be growing and improving its NPFH efforts this year. No Place for Hate is a collaborative initiative that provides PreK–12 schools with an organizing framework for students, administrators, teachers, and families to develop long-term solutions for creating an inclusive and equitable climate, for taking a stand against bias and bullying, and for sending a clear, unified message that all students have a place where they belong.

If your 4th grade student is interested in applying for the No Place for Hate Coalition (NPFH), please have them fill out an application [here](#). The deadline to apply is Friday, September 29th. This is a two-year commitment (4th & 5th grade). Six fourth grade students will be selected to be a part of the coalition, which also consists of eight 5th grade students. Monthly meetings will be held the second Friday of the month during Team Time (7:40-8:10).

Under the leadership of Ms. Aronowitz, Ms. McKernan, Ms. McCullough, and Ms. Brenner, the "No Place for Hate Coalition" will conduct activities to sustain an inclusive school environment such as a "No Place For Hate" pledge, Kindness Week, anti-bias classroom counseling lessons and Diversity Reader Week. Please [reach out to Mrs. A](#) with any questions.



Reminder: Participate Remote Days

Having our students in school each and every day is a priority for us here at HFE. We want to share with you information about Participate Remote Days.

Approved Remote Learning Days are a new addition to the Fulton County attendance policy as of last year. Each student is able to take up to 5 approved remote learning days each semester. These can be used when you have a special family event, required travel, etc. These days must be requested at least 5 days in advance and require principal's approval. These days may not be used on testing days. Here is how the process works:

- Parent notifies homeroom teacher of request to take remote learning days.
- Teacher will provide link to form requesting remote learning days.
- Teachers will provide work for students to complete within 5 days of the absence.

Please reach out to [Mrs. Dunagan](#) with any questions.

Creative Corner

Looking for engaging ways to nurture your child's creative skills? Check out [HFE's Creative Corner website!](#) It is full of opportunities for students to practice their creative thinking skills outside the classroom. There is a creativity menu posted each month for each grade level. Students can earn PBIS points for completing their menu & following directions on the page. If you have any questions about the resources, please [contact Mrs. Strasburger](#).

A graphic with a light beige background and horizontal lines. The text "HEARDS FERRY" is on the top line and "CREATIVE CORNER" is on the bottom line. Both lines of text are in a red, hand-drawn, sketchy font.

Lunch Bunch Volunteers



Volunteers are needed throughout the school year to help lunchtime run smoothly, especially for our younger children who may need more assistance. There are 2 time slots each day (10:15-11:30 and 11:30-12:30) that are available for volunteers.

Starting Monday, September 11th, be on the lookout for your class' assigned week and consider signing up if you are available.

Alternatively, you may sign up [HERE](#) for any available slot which can be found under volunteer opportunities on the Eagle Alliance website. After signing up, you will receive a description of expectations to help everything run smoothly.

We appreciate your time, and our children get very excited to see you in our cafeteria!

TAG Screening and Referral Process

Please click [HERE](#) for information from FCS on the current screening and referral process for TAG. Please reach out to [Ms. Chambless](#) with any questions.



IB Update from Ms. Yancey

Welcome back, HFE families! It's going to be an exciting year for us as an IB school. [Please visit my smore page](#) to learn more about our IB program!



HFE INTERNATIONAL INQUIRER PROGRAM At HFE, every homeroom has a country of study, and each month, students will research a topic about their country. This year, to incorporate more student agency, students in each homeroom will CHOOSE their topic of interest. Their research will be on display in the halls to provide an opportunity to stay internationally minded! You can support this effort by asking what country your child is studying and what the topic of study is for that current month.



COOKIES FOR CHARACTER is our program that celebrates the IB Learner Profile attributes. It is our belief, as an IB school, that these traits will foster lifelong learners who care about the world around them, and want to make the world a better place.

At the end of August, we held our first “Cookies for Character” celebration, recognizing those students who have consistently shown the attribute of being principled. It was a very special occasion, and great to see so many HFE eagles recognized for doing the right thing, even when no one is looking!



Taking ACTION in our community is an important component of our IB program. As mentioned earlier in this newsletter, our first opportunity for our school to help others will be September 18th – 20th by supporting a local organization, Solidarity Sandy Springs, with a food drive.

S.O.A.R. Spotlight

Each month, we recognize members of our community who exemplify the S.O.A.R. qualities we seek to instill in our children. For the first few months of this school year, we would like to use this space to introduce you to the teachers and staff members that have joined our nest this year. Welcome to HFE!



Lindsey Black - 1st Grade

My name is Lindsey Black. I am from Fort Wayne Indiana, but I have spent the past 7 years in Alabama. I got my bachelor's degree from the University of Alabama. ROLL TIDE! This will be my 3rd year teaching. Previously, I was a 1st Grade Teacher in Mobile, Alabama. In my free time I love spending time with my family, friends and boyfriend, traveling, playing pickle ball and going to the beach. I am so excited to be at Heard's Ferry. Go Eagles! A fun fact about me is that I have a picture with the Philadelphia Eagles quarterback, Jalen Hurts.

Julie Buck - 5th Grade

This will be my seventh year teaching 5th grade. I absolutely LOVE 5th grade! I graduated with my Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and with my Master's degree in Instructional Leadership from The University of Alabama. Roll Tide! This summer, I got married and moved to Atlanta from Birmingham, Alabama. In Birmingham, I taught 5th grade in Homewood City Schools. I am so excited to be at Heard's Ferry!





Many thanks to our *Partners In Education* for supporting HFE Eagle Alliance

Platinum Eagle



Golden Eagle



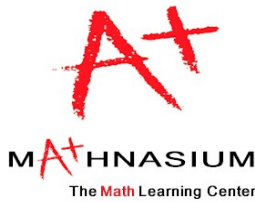
Atlanta
Orthodontic
Specialists
atlantaortho.com



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Silver Eagle



The next edition of Eagle Alliance Newsletter is October 2. All article submissions are due September 22 and should be submitted to communications@hfeeaglealliance.org.