



Eagle News

May 1, 2024 - www.hfeeaglealliance.org

Dear HFE Families,

It's hard to believe we are already in May, the end of the school year! What a year we have had. It has been a pleasure working with each of you this year as we supported HFE together. We have accomplished so much for our students, teachers, staff and school community as a whole. I'd like to highlight the work of our Investment Committee, who just completed a years-long project to get our digital marquee installed! There are still some amazing things going on at school over the next few weeks as we approach the final day of the year. I know we will all enjoy International Week and Field Day!

Best of luck to our 5th grade students as they move on to middle school. They have a week full of fun to celebrate prior to their promotion ceremony.

We will all wish Ms. Nash well as she moves on to the next chapter....retirement. We will miss seeing her at HFE every day!

I am excited for Brooke Brown and Jessica Ackel to be the Eagle Alliance Co-Presidents next school year. Together they are a wonderful team, and we are lucky to have them lead the Eagle Alliance!

I hope that everyone has a great summer!

Peace, Love, HFE,

Julie

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Calendar Highlights

May

1 Turn in All Library Books

3 Spirit Day

13-17 International Week

16 Field Day

16-18 Spirit Shopping at Swoozie's

21 Virtual Day for Students

22 End of Year School-wide Celebration

23 Last Day of School

23 5th Grade Recognition Ceremony

Milestone Testing Dates - May 1-10

Milestone testing will continue in May. We will be testing from 8 to 11 am on the days below. Make ups will be in the afternoons. There is nothing you need to do to prepare your child other than make sure they get a good night's sleep and healthy breakfast!

- 5/1 - ELA Grades 3 & 5
- 5/2-3 - Math Grade 4
- 5/6-7 - Math Grades 3 & 5
- 5/8-9 - ELA Grade 4
- 5/9 - Science Grade 5
- 5/10 - ELA Grade 4

Please [CLICK HERE](#) for more information on the testing. Any questions? Please reach out to [Mrs. Dunagan](#).



International Week - May 13-17

International week is going to be better than ever this year, and we need your help collecting supplies! The team is looking for everything from cardboard boxes and markers to stuffed animals and rhinestone stickers. Please sign up to bring one or more items [HERE](#). All items should be dropped off with Ms. Julia at the Front Desk by May 8th. In addition, we are looking for volunteers to help with [setup](#) and to assist [during International Week](#). Please click the applicable link to view those signups! Thank you to our International Week Sponsor, [Jewish Kids Group](#).

Riverwood Best Buddies Fundraiser - May 15

If you have a craving for some BBQ on May 15th, please consider supporting our friends at Riverwood International Charter School's Best Buddies program!

Sandy Springs

EAT TO SUPPORT Riverwood Best Buddies



05.15.24
11:00 AM - 8:00 PM



USE PROMO CODE
GIVE



CITY BARBEQUE
6649 Roswell Rd NE, Sandy Springs

City
BARBEQUE

Field Day - May 16



Save the date for HFE's Field Day presented by [Karate Atlanta](#) on Thursday May 16! Don't forget your sunscreen, hat, water bottle and change of clothes! Stay tuned for more information.

Swoozie's Spirit Shopping - May 16-18

Shop at Swoozie's and earn money for our school! Shop for graduation gifts, end-of-year teacher gifts or stock up for those summer birthdays. Shop anytime from May 16 to 18 at the Buckhead location (Roswell Rd.) and mention HFE at your time of purchase.

Swoozie's

Virtual Day for Students - May 21

May 21st is a statewide election and will be virtual for students. Students will not be given work to complete on this day, as we will not be sending home devices.

Jr. Raiders Basketball Camp - June 3-6



JR RAIDER BASKETBALL CAMP

JUNE 3-6

**BOYS & GIRLS
3RD - 8TH GRADE**

9am to 1pm

\$150 (t-shirt included)

**Coach
Buck Jenkins**



- Emphasis on fundamentals
- Guest speakers & awards
- Team concepts offense/defense
- Skills contests & competition
- Concession stand will be open



Contact: Coach McDaniels mcdanielsj@fultonschools.org

School Supply Kits for 24-25 School Year - Order by June 7

School supply kits for the 2024-2025 school year are now available for purchase! Please click [HERE](#) to place your order by **June 7th**. Use account number **66127**. All kits are shipped directly to HFE and will be delivered to your child's classroom. Make sure to select the kit for the grade your child will be entering in the fall!



Teacher/Staff Gift Fund

We are so grateful for our dedicated and caring HFE staff that ensures our children continue to SOAR! With the end of the year approaching, we wanted to remind families to please donate to the teacher/staff gift fund if you can. The money collected covers gifts for end-of-year for homeroom teachers, specials teachers, custodial and cafeteria staff, and other HFE staff members. If you have not already donated to the fund this school year, please consider doing so [HERE](#).

THANK YOU
TEACHERS & STAFF!

EA Feedback Survey

The Eagle Alliance is busy making plans for next year, and we want to hear from you. Let us know what you enjoyed, what needs adjusting and what ideas you have to enrich our community. Share your thoughts with us [HERE](#).

Info for 5th Grade Families



RCMS Spirit Wear - For those families with 5th graders soaring to Ridgeview Charter Middle School, spirit wear is available in the [RCMS Panther Store](#)! These make great end-of-year gifts! Orders should be submitted online by **May 13th** and will be delivered to HFE's front desk for parent pick-up. You'll receive an email notification when the order has been fulfilled. Inventory is available while supplies last so place your orders early!

Congratulatory Yard Signs - Show your 5th graders how proud you are by displaying a Class of 2024 sign in your front yard! Purchase your sign [HERE](#).

5th Grade Fun Day - On **May 20th**, the kids will enjoy a fun-filled day at school including a kickball tournament, yearbook signing, pizza and ice cream. Watch for more details as the event gets closer, including a volunteer sign up.

5th Grade Recognition Ceremony & Reception - This event will take place in the HFE cafeteria at 8am on **May 23rd**. Ticket information coming soon!

School's Out Party - A group of parent volunteers are organizing a celebration the afternoon of **May 23rd**. If you'd like more information, please fill out this [FORM](#) by **May 6th**, and they'll send you the scoop! Payment registration for the party will be accepted until May 15th.

Calling all Mountain Bikers - Are you a rising 6th-grade student who loves to ride bikes? The Riverwood Team welcomes students who plan to attend there in the future. This co-ed team consists of riders in grades 6-12 of any skill level who want to have fun and grow their skills. Learn more about the program [HERE](#) and reach out to [Sarah Bristow](#) or [Christie Hunt](#) for more information.

Continuous Achievement for Math and RELA

All students in K-5 will be screened for potential advancement/acceleration in reading and math for fall 2024. Students are placed in the appropriate curriculum based on performance on standardized tests, screening assessments, grades, teacher recommendation and diagnostic placement assessments when applicable. Here are the criteria needed for a student to be considered for a change in placement:

Math- There is no assessment required. The data points below are all screened to assess whether a student qualifies for acceleration in math.

Data Point	Required Criteria
Spring 2023 GMAS Math Level for grades 4-7	Proficient (Level 3) or Distinguished (Level 4)
Beginning of the Year i-Ready Diagnostic	National Percentile Rank of 85 or higher
Middle of the Year i-Ready Diagnostic	National Percentile Rank of 85 or higher
Gifted Testing: Math Mental Ability (if applicable)	National Percentile Rank of 85 or higher
Gifted Testing: Math Achievement (if applicable)	National Percentile Rank of 85 or higher
Math Unit Assessment Average	Average of 85% or higher

- Students who have 60% or more of their data points meeting the criteria are recommended for advanced math curriculum.
- Students who have 100% of their data points meeting the criteria are reviewed for acceleration using the i-Ready National Percentile Rank as the final determining factor.

RELA- The data points below are all screened to assess whether a student qualifies for acceleration in RELA. Students may be administered a writing assessment to determine whether they are eligible to advance.

- RELA Unit Assessment Average
- Previous and current IReady National Percentile Rank
- Gifted testing: Verbal Mental Ability
- Gifted testing: Reading Achievement

By May 10th, every student in K-5 will receive a letter explaining what math level they have qualified for. Students who qualify for a placement change in RELA will also receive a placement letter. If you do not receive a written notification for your child's RELA placement, your child will remain in their current placement in the fall. If you are interested in signing a waiver for your child to be placed in advanced or accelerated, please email [Michaela Ferretti](#) (Curriculum Support Teacher) for a math and/or reading waiver by **Friday, May 16th at 3pm. No waivers will be taken after this deadline.** There will be another opportunity for your child to qualify or be waived into advanced or accelerated placement in the winter of 2024.

Partners in Education Spotlight

Dear HFE Parents _____

It has truly been an honor and a pleasure to serve as your Platinum Sponsor this school year. These formative years are crucial in shaping their future success, and your dedication to supporting teachers and students at Heards Ferry is truly commendable. Participating in the special events sponsored by the Eagle Alliance has been a highlight for me, allowing me to interact with your children and meet many of you personally. I must say, your children are a delight - inquisitive, polite, and deeply appreciative.

As a passionate realtor, supporting the Eagle Alliance perfectly aligns with my dedication to education and client support. Real estate transactions are intricate, involving various legal, financial, and logistical considerations. Through continuous education, my goal is to empower my clients, enabling them to make well-informed decisions. I aim to enhance their experience and facilitate successful outcomes by providing guidance and clarity every step of the way.

Beyond the closing table, I am committed to educating homeowners on how to preserve their investments. My aim is to share knowledge and build lasting relationships throughout the homeownership journey, offering valuable referrals and guidance on property value and improvements.



Thank you once again for the opportunity to serve as your Platinum Sponsor this year. I look forward to continuing our partnership and supporting the wonderful community at Heards Ferry Elementary

Best,
Amy Bubes



Do you own a local business or know someone who would want to support our school? We are signing up Partners in Education sponsors for the upcoming school year and would love to talk to you! You can find out more about this wonderful program [HERE](#).

IB Update from Ms. Yancey

[Please visit my smore page](#) to learn more about our IB program!



HFE INTERNATIONAL INQUIRER PROGRAM **International Week begins Monday May 13th!**

I am SO excited for International Week this year! The children will “visit” four different countries (Brazil, China, Cuba, and Kenya) through immersive experiences and virtual tours! They’ll be “riding” down the streets of Havana, walking up the Great Wall of China, hiking through the Amazon rainforest, and taking a Safari ride through Masai Mara! Each experience is intended to give a glimpse of something that makes the country special and generate international-mindedness within our students. Each homeroom is also creating a mini-world project which will be a 3D representation of either a symbol, landmark, or landform of the country the students have been studying all year. These will be on display in the media center all week. Last, each homeroom within a grade level will be visiting other classes to hear presentations from the students about their country.



5th GRADE EXHIBITION!

Our 5th graders completed their Exhibition projects and they were spectacular! Exhibition is a requirement of the IB PYP programme, and is an opportunity for our students to research a real world issue, discuss, and collaborate how they can take ACTION to reduce or help alleviate the issue. Making this experience even more amazing, is that we continued to partner with IB diploma students from Riverwood High School who served as mentors to our students in their research process! Their presentations were recorded, and will be posted to the school website.



COOKIES FOR CHARACTER

We held our last Cookies for Character celebration in April for the learner profile attribute of Balanced! We look forward to continuing this tradition next year!

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. This month, we recognize our wonderful principal, Lisa Nash, as she moves on to her next chapter.

Mrs. Nash began her journey with Heards Ferry in October of 2013. She has loved every minute of being here and feels very lucky to be the principal at HFE. Some of the honors HFE has earned under her leadership include:

- Governor's Office National School of Excellence award
- GA Office of Student Achievement the Highest Performing Schools Gold Award
- Exemplary High Performing Schools National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Secretary of Education
- In 2018 HFE officially became an International Baccalaureate PYP World School

Prior to coming to Heards Ferry, she worked in Fulton County as the Principal of High Point Elementary. In her 30 years with the school system, she also served as a classroom teacher, Curriculum Support Teacher and Assistant Principal. She grew up in Columbus, GA and received her BA from the University of Alabama and her M. Ed in Educational Leadership from Georgia State. She has the steadfast support of her family- husband Jeff, daughter Zoe, a 9th grader at Riverwood, and Eli, a 6th grader at Ridgeview.

Thank you Mrs. Nash for your dedication and drive for excellence - our children and community are all the better for it. Congratulations on your retirement!





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

Platinum Eagle



Golden Eagle



Atlanta
Orthodontic
Specialists
atlantaortho.com



Chris Philmon
(770) 864-7526
NMLS #214740



Silver Eagle



The next edition of Eagle Alliance Newsletter will not come out until the fall.

Have a wonderful summer!