



# Brighten Bulletin

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January 16, 2015

## REFRIGERATOR REMINDERS

01/15	Spirit Night - Blue Agave 5-8 pm
01/16	Early Dismissal 11:30
01/19	Holiday
01/20	All Students at New Campus
01/21	Early Dismissal 1:00
01/22-01/23	PTO Variety Show Tryouts 6-8 pm
01/24	Volunteer Work Day <b>CANCELLED</b>
01/26	PTO Meeting 5 pm Governing Board Meeting 6 pm
01/28	Early Dismissal 1:00
02/02-02/06	Kiss a Critter
02/04	Early Dismissal at 1:00
02/05	Variety Show Dress Rehearsal 6-8 pm, First Presbyterian Church
02/06	Variety Show 6-8 pm First Presbyterian Church
02/09	Gov. Board Work Session 6 pm
02/10	Band Recital 6-8 pm
02/11	Early Dismissal 1:00
02/12-02/16	Holiday – No School
02/18	Early Dismissal 1:00
02/19	Spirit Night - Chick-fil-a (Hwy. 5) 5-9 pm
02/21	Volunteer Work Day 9-12
02/23	PTO Meeting 5 pm Governing Board Meeting 6 pm
02/25	Early Dismissal 1:00

## **The Big Move!**

We're almost there! Our middle school moved over to their new classrooms today and the rest of our teachers and students will follow on Tuesday! It has been a long road for everyone, and we're all excited to be back together again next week. In order to be prepared for some logistical changes, please review the following procedures for morning and afternoon car rider lines as well as information about the location of our office. As always, we appreciate the support and patience you have given us as we have transitioned.

### Morning Drop Off

The morning drop off line will run from 7:10-7:58. All cars should enter the campus by turning right into the Prestley Mill entrance, following the traffic route through the parking lot to the new classroom section where students will be dropped off, and exiting the campus by traveling back through the parking lot to exit by turning right onto Prestley Mill Road. Please note that students who are in the car rider line at 7:55 are likely to be tardy as the building is larger and some students might have to travel several flights of stairs to get to their homeroom classes.

### Afternoon Pick Up

After many revisions, we have decided that the safest and most efficient way to dismiss students is by asking parents to park and come into the building to pick up your child. In order to make pick up easier, we will bring all students to the main level. Parents will pick up students in K-2<sup>nd</sup> grades from the student's classroom on the main floor. Students in 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades will be dismissed from the media center, and our students in 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades will be in the "gallery area" in the existing building. Sibling of middle school students will also be in the gallery area. Daycare buses will pick up at the covered portico area by the gallery/main office area. We recommend that our middle school parents park closest to the main entrance by the gallery and elementary parents park closer to the new building. Please bring your pink tag with you when you come in to pick up your student. If you or the person picking up your student is disabled, please contact administration for any needed accommodations.

### Main Office

The main office is in the same place, which is in the building that houses the gym, the gallery, and the cafeteria. When checking out/in or dropping off supplies, please use the main office.

## **Reminder – 11:30 Dismissal on Friday, January 16th**

We want to remind our families that students will be dismissed at 11:30 this Friday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. We will not have lunch before school dismisses and there will be no specials that day. ASP will be available at an increased rate (\$15 for the day) but will include lunch. If your child will be attending ASP and does not normally attend, please email Erin Cheak at [echeak@brightenacademy.com](mailto:echeak@brightenacademy.com) so we can make sure we have enough lunches for the students. Also, if your child will be picked up by a daycare, please remind them of the 11:30 pick-up. If you have any questions, please contact Connie Arnold at [carnold@brightenacademy.com](mailto:carnold@brightenacademy.com).

## Congratulations, Mrs. McDonald!

Congratulations to Mrs. McDonald, Georgia's Charter Leader of the Year! Mrs. McDonald will be presented with the GCSA's "Shoot for the Moon" award at the 2015 Charter Schools Leadership Conference held on January 30<sup>th</sup>.

Our Brighten family could not be more proud of her and we can't think of anyone who is more deserving of this honor. Her hard work and dedication to the school is evident to every staff member and student at Brighten Academy and we're so blessed to call her "ours"!



## Brighten Spelling Bee

Congratulations to our 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students who participated in this year's Spelling Bee! Special congratulations to our Spelling Bee winners! We're proud of your hard work and dedication!

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Alex Aybar  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Ayesha Saeed  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Evan Aybar



## Brighten Science Fair

Brighten's first Science Fair was a huge success! We want to thank Ms. Kinnel and Mrs. Murphy for organizing the fair, as well as our community judges. Congratulations to the following place winners:

## Blue Ribbon Winners

8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Brooklyn Stewart  
Shelby Stephens  
Brendon Thaler  
Maia Bliss  
Kennedy Montgomery  
Makayla Tappin

7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Sydney Ardis  
Laina Kite  
Alex Aybar  
Ethan Rogers  
Trevor Smith  
Jermaine Campbell  
Jordan Powell  
Ayesha Saeed  
McKenzie Wtson  
Simone Mba  
Juliet Murphy  
McKenna Croft  
Barbara Kiger  
Emily Roberts

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Hailey Wilson

### Red Ribbon Winners

8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Ali Cortez  
Mackenzie Olvey  
Mina Wallace  
Alex Higgins  
Carolina Paz  
Rachel Caro  
Ria Shah  
Miranda Newsome  
Amelia Glaser

7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Lawren Francis  
Elaine Berg

6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Jola Oyedepo

## Brighten Academy Partners in Education

We love our Partners in Education! If you are interested in partnering with Brighten, please contact Lisa McDonald at [lmcdonald@brightenacademy.com](mailto:lmcdonald@brightenacademy.com) or Toni Aybar at [taybar@brightenacademy.com](mailto:taybar@brightenacademy.com). We also want to welcome our newest partners:

### MoJoBa's Fun Factory



7442 Douglas Blvd.  
Douglasville, GA 30135  
(770) 575-0717  
[www.mojobasfunfactory.com](http://www.mojobasfunfactory.com)

MoJoBa's will donate 25% of each General Admission and 10% of Birthday Party balances back to the school when you mention you are with Brighten Academy!

### Omega Learning Center



2987 Chapel Hill Rd. Suite 101  
Douglasville, GA 30135  
(770) 942-0530  
[www.omegalearning.com](http://www.omegalearning.com)

Thank you for your donations of Kindles and for being dedicated event sponsor!

## Special Thanks!

Our facility move would not have been possible without the help and support of our Brighten families and community members. We want to give special thanks to some of our volunteers who went above and beyond to make our move successful. We couldn't have done it without you!

**Douglasville U-Haul**  
**Douglasville First United Methodist Church**  
**Douglas County Lion's Club**  
**Earl Lawson**  
**Holly Leasure**

Thank you so much for your support!

## Variety Show

Got talent? It's that time again! Calling all singers, actors, dancers, comics, musicians, magicians! Get your routines ready – whether you're a group or solo act, prep your performance to perfection and get ready to wow us!

The BACS 2015 Variety Show will be held at First Presbyterian Church on Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm. Tryouts will be held on Thursday and Friday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6-8 pm at our Prestley Mill Campus. Registration forms and fees will be turned in at tryouts. A mandatory Dress Rehearsal will be held on Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm at First Presbyterian.

If you have any questions, please contact our Variety Show Chair, Genobia Babalola at [genobia\\_ann@yahoo.com](mailto:genobia_ann@yahoo.com). We can't wait to see our students shine!

## GCSA Parents and Advocates



Looking for ways you can get connected to the charter school movement and be an advocate for education? Look no further!

### Phone2Action

Get updates from our Advocacy alert network using your smartphone. Text CHARTER to 52886.

### Weekly CharterNews

Receive charter news Wednesday mornings in your email. Sign up at [www.gacharters.org/newsroom/subscribe-to-newsletters/](http://www.gacharters.org/newsroom/subscribe-to-newsletters/).

### G-PAN Parent Advocacy Network

News for charter parents who want to support their kids and schools. Sign up at [www.gacharters.org/newsroom/subscribe-to-newsletters/](http://www.gacharters.org/newsroom/subscribe-to-newsletters/).

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