

## Important Dates

**Aug. 5**

First Day of School

**Aug. 8**

Matt's Small Town Spirit Night

**Aug. 16**

Kindergarten Parent Mtg.  
8:15 am or 6:30 pm

**Aug. 17**

Southern Style Spirit Night

**Aug. 23**

Open House-Title 1 Parent Mtg. 6:30-7:30

**Aug. 24**

Boy Scout Round-up 6:00-8:00 pm-cafeteria

**Aug. 25**

Running Club Begins

**Aug. 29**

PTO Mtg. @ 6:30 pm

## Gifted Referral Period: Aug. 1-15

Parents desiring to refer their students to be tested for entry into the Elementary Gifted (R.E.A.C.H.) Program can contact Mrs. Threlkeld for referral information.

Parents: Refer to your Eastside Parent/Student Handbook on our school website for calendars/events, policies and procedures, and helpful information throughout the school year. Click the link to verify that you and your student have viewed the handbook policies & Procedures.

# EASTSIDE ELEMENTARY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## From our Principal's office...

August 5, 2016

### Welcome Back!

I hope that everyone had a restful summer and read many good books! I want to remind parents that Eastside will remain on the Georgia Focus School list for this school year, because of the size of the achievement gap between our lowest performing students and our highest performing students. This means that, in comparison to all of the schools in the state, we have not been able to lessen that gap enough. So, below are some answers to questions that I hope you will have:



**What Does Being a Focus School Mean?** Eastside teachers, Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, will be providing targeted assistance in the form of tutoring during specials and small group instruction during the day to students who we deem at-risk due to previous test performance and academic growth.

**Who Will be Helping Eastside?** Eastside has the complete support of the Coweta County School System. District Curriculum and Testing Leaders continuously meet with us to revise and review our plan for addressing the needs of these students.

**What Will Happen at Eastside?** Eastside parents have already received letters from our County confirming that Eastside is a Focus School. To be able to move forward and not allow Eastside to be defined as an underperforming school, we will work diligently to ensure mastery and application of the standards. We ask your support by reviewing agendas nightly, looking for letters and notifications of meetings, and assisting with homework. As always, we encourage you to come and volunteer in our classrooms by reading with students.

Please become an active user of the Parent Portal. You are invited to visit the Eastside office to receive an Activation Key code to access Parent Portal, if you have not already done so. To receive the code, you will need to show your driver's license. Through the portal, you will have access to schedules, grades, daily attendance and lunchroom fees.

**Two other notes:** In regarding transportation, our school system adopted a new policy last year that states: **"Bus drivers will be allowed to return students to school, when there is no one at their house. After the second return to school, all bus services will be discontinued."**

Remember that the **2009 Georgia Attendance Law** states that students ages 6-16 must have less than 6 unexcused absences each year. Students with 5 unexcused absences will receive written notification. On the 6<sup>th</sup> unexcused absence, the Coweta County School System Attendance Officer will contact your family and may take legal action for truancy. **To prevent any unnecessary legal action, anytime your child has been home sick please send in a doctor's note or written excuse as soon as he/she returns to school.**

Please call if you ever have any questions.

Leigh Munson

Visit our website at:  
[www.cowetaschools.org/ees](http://www.cowetaschools.org/ees)



## Mr. Fowler's Messages...

### Welcome Back Bobcats!

I am so excited to join the Eastside Elementary family and begin a wonderful and successful 2016-1017 school year! I hope you had an amazing summer, and I can't wait to work with everyone to continue the excellence that Eastside offers. If you need any help, support, or assistance feel free to contact me.

Jim Fowler, Assistant Principal  
[Jim.fowler@cowetaschools.org](mailto:Jim.fowler@cowetaschools.org)



@eastside\_ap



## Mrs. Allen's Media News...

All kindergarten through fifth grade classes will soon visit the media center to check out books. Kindergarten and first grade student will begin by checking out one book. Second, third, fourth, and fifth grade students will begin by checking out two books. Students are not allowed to check out a book if they have an overdue book. Please help them remember to return their books each week. Throughout the school year, please help your child take care of his/her library book(s) by following these book care rules:



- Don't let library books get wet. (No water bottles or lunch boxes in book bags.)
- Keep your library books away from pets. (You'd be surprised by how many books become chew toys.)
- Never write in a library book.
- Always have clean hands when you read.
- Use a bookmark instead of folding down a corner of the page.
- Always return books when there are due.

At your house, please choose a place to keep library books so they are not lost or damaged. We are off to a good start as students remember these guidelines.

We also have e-book resources for your students. That information will be sent home soon.

It promises to be another great school year at Eastside!

Tina Allen, Media Specialist

## School Counselor's Corner...



Welcome back to school! I am thrilled to be a part of the Eastside family this year. As your School Counselor, I am here to help all students learn life skills in the areas of social, career, and academic development so they can reach their potential and achieve great things. Services offered include individual and small group counseling and classroom guidance lessons. I look forward to working with all of our students and families. Please contact me if I can be of assistance.

Kim Pelletier, Counselor  
kim.pelletier@cowetaschools.net

**Early Check Out & Transportation Changes:** There will be NO transportation changes or student checkout after 2:00 p.m. All transportation notes/changes MUST be in writing and received by the teacher early in the day. Please include on the note the first and last name of the student, teacher's name, the date, the address the child is to be dropped off (if bus rider) or the name of the person picking up the student (if car rider). The person picking up the student will be asked to show identification. **On occasion**, when situations arise, you can either fax your transportation change to the school at 770 599-8530 or send an e-mail to each of the following people:

- Debbie.bishop@cowetaschools.net
- Cathy.walker@cowetaschools.net
- Jim.fowler@cowetaschools.net



**\*\* Please do not use e-mail as a regular means to change your child's transportation.**



### Friday Hat Days

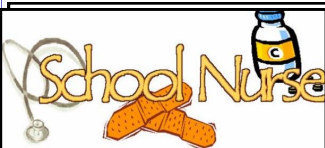
Each Friday throughout the school year students who bring in \$1.00 can wear a hat.

The proceeds will benefit the following: Campus Beautification, Relay for Life, Music Dept., Technology, FERST Foundation, Special Olympics, Media Center, Drama Club, Meals on Wheels, Running Club, and Jr. Beta Club.

### Eastside PTO Officers:

ptoeastside@yahoo.com

President:	Denny Bowen
Vice President:	Casey Zacherl
Secretary:	Katie McKnney
Treasurer:	Stephanie Stoll



I hope that everyone had a great summer break. I am committed to serving you with the health related needs of your child as we look forward to a successful and healthy school year. Please be reminded of some requirements regarding medications and procedures. All prescription medications must be brought to the clinic by parents/guardians and a directive must be completed and signed. OTC (over the counter) medications must be given to the nurse in the original container with a written and signed directive as well.

**Medications reaching the nurse in a plastic baggie, etc. will not be administered!** Parents please feel free to stop by the clinic at any time to discuss your child's health care needs. I am excited to meet each of you as I partner with you and your physician in providing the best care for your student.

Michelle Snider, LPN, School Nurse

