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.
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.

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.
we serve. Equally as important is promoting the protection of all students from
meets the social, emotional, behavioral, and mental health needs of the students
To set students up for success, Burnett strives to create a climate that
All students deserve access to a welcoming, supportive, and safe learning environ-
Monday, December 19, 2022 at 6:30 PM
Safety and Discipline Matters (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.

Math Winter Wonderland (IN-PERSON)
Join as we review the data from the first semester.
Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 6:30 PM
Where Are We Now? (VIRTUAL)
Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 6:30 PM
Join us as we review the data from the first semester.
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.

PTT meeting #3.

Beulah Elementary School Parent Resource Center
1150 Burnt Hickory Road, Douglasville, GA 30134
(770) 651-3300 bees.dcssga.org

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 environ-
ment. 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.

Visi YOUR Title I Parent Resource Center Today!
Families will learn about middle school math and science standards and how to incorporate them into everyday activities.

Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 5:30 pm

STEM Night (IN-PERSON)

Arbor Station Elementary School
9999 Parkway South, Douglasville, GA 30135
(770) 651-3000 ases.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.

Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Litmus Night (IN-PERSON)

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

Literacy Night (IN-PERSON)

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

Math Night (IN-PERSON)

Bill Arp Elementary School
6550 Alexander Parkway, Douglasville, GA 30135
(770) 651-3200 baes.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.

STEM Night (IN-PERSON)

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

Math and ELA Night (IN-PERSON)

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.

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.

Upcoming Important Dates

December 16
Semester ends

December 19-January 3
Student Holidays

January 4
Students return; 2nd semester begins

January 5
Report cards issued, all levels

January 16
Student Holiday