



Panda Press

The Parkside PTA Newsletter

February 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS

Parkside Stride

The fourth annual Stride 5K & 1-Mile Fun Run is **Saturday, March 16**. Registration opens at 7 a.m. The 5K starts at 8 a.m., and will be followed by the 1-mile run starting at 9:15 a.m. Awards will be given to the top boy and girl finishers in each grade, as well as to the top male and female adult finishers (for the 5K only). Students that participate in both races will receive an additional trophy. (Note: you must register for both races.)

Parkside students and faculty will receive discounted registration only if they return the paper registration form to the school. The race fee includes a T-shirt and a goody bag with coupons for local businesses. (Forms must be received by March 1 to guarantee a T-shirt in your size.) Registration forms will go home in the Thursday folders and are also available in the front office. Or register online at <https://runsignup.com/Race/GA/Atlanta/ParksideStride>.

This year, we would like to encourage more of our students to participate in the 5K (3.1-mile) race. This fun community event is open to every level of runners (and walkers!), and we will have stations along the route to keep you motivated. The 5K race is also a Peachtree Road Race Qualifier.

Like all of our school events, we rely on volunteers to make the Stride a success! Be on the lookout for a Sign-Up Genius for volunteer opportunities. Questions? Contact Sarah Cannon at sarahwcannon@att.net or 404-395-9124.

Parkside Dine-Outs

Help raise money for the PTA while enjoying dinner out with your family! Please mention that you are there for Parkside in order for us to receive credit. More information will be available soon on the Parkside Facebook Group.

Budi's Sushi – Tuesday, February 26

Doc Chey's Grant Park – Monday, March 11 - Sunday, March 17

Your Pie – Tuesday, April 16

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Book Fair Success

We made over \$6,000 in sales at the fall Scholastic Book Fair! The money allowed us to fulfill classroom "wish lists" and expose our entire school community to the love of reading. Thanks to all who participated in helping make this event such a success. Our spring book fair is scheduled for the week of **April 15**. Look for a volunteer sign-up two weeks beforehand.

Cafeteria Upgrades

The PTA is purchasing sound absorption panels to decorate the cafeteria walls — and help dampen the lunchtime volume. The school's maintenance staff will be installing them soon. Atlanta Public Schools has also committed to removing Styrofoam and single-use plastic from all schools starting next year. For Earth Day, the Garden & Wellness Committee will be swapping out Styrofoam for biodegradable trays during lunch and creating cafeteria signage to encourage kids to choose more fresh vegetables and fruit.

Coming Soon: Chickens!

Parkside's chicken coop has been approved and funded, and our little brood will arrive in March. Thank you to everyone who contributed to our fundraising campaign!

Tastings & Yoga

Our kindergarten students received a special visitor at the January garden recipe tasting — a milk goat from Decimal Place farm! The spring school-wide tasting will take place on Tuesday, March 26. Yoga also continues on Wednesday mornings from 7:30 to 7:45 a.m. It's free and a great way for students to get focused and centered before school.

We're also happy to announce that the Garden & Wellness Committee is now the Sustainability, Wellness & Garden Committee (SWAG). Reach out at ps.garden2wellness@gmail.com or via our [Parkside Learning Garden Facebook](#) group to help with chickens, tastings, and more.

DATES TO REMEMBER

February 18 - 22 – NO SCHOOL, Winter Break

March 16 – Parkside Stride

March 18 - NO SCHOOL, Teacher Professional Learning Day March 21 – PTA meeting (childcare provided)



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Misty Bethune (aka Coach B), Physical Education

Where did you grow up and attend elementary school? I grew up in a small town called Lillington, North Carolina. My elementary school was Shawtown Elementary and only included students in kindergarten through third grade.

What's one thing about you that people would be surprised to know? I volunteer at a rescue farm called Save the Horses. The animals — mostly horses, but also cows, chickens, goats and sheep — were abused or neglected before being rescued. It is truly one of my favorite places to be.

What's the funniest thing you heard in gym this week? Today one of the second-grade girls said that I was getting on her nerves and I should stop talking smack. Obviously, she was kidding and it was super funny.

What is the most important thing you hope students take with them from Parkside? A strong sense of kindness as well as a respect for diversity.



Go digital >>> Did you know we have our school calendar, faculty directory, newsletters, and more on our school website? Check it out at www.atlantapublicschools.us/parkside.





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Our mailing address is:

Parkside Elementary School
685 Mercer St SE
Atlanta, GA 30312-3519

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