

# WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 5TH

# SPARK FAMILY NEWSLETTER



## Calendar

**September 4** - Labor Day, no school

**September 7** - Progress Reports and MAP Family Reports go home

**September 7** - Parent Coffee Talk

**September 14** - Midtown Cluster Night at Midtown Football game


**September 14 & 15** - Pastries with Parents

**September 15** - Fall picture day


**October 4** - National Walk to School Day




## Events


 **Pik My Kid:** Starting **9/5/2023** all dismissal changes will be on the Pik My Kid app. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more.

 **Grandparents & Grandfriends Day:** Bring someone who is GRAND to you and join us for some GRAND fun! Bring your lunch to join your student on September 8th their lunch time.


 **Parent Coffee Talk with Dr. Toney and Mrs. Pruett:** Join us in the SPARK cafeteria to chat with Dr. Toney and Mrs. Pruett over coffee on September 7th 8am.

 **Pastries with Parents:** Join your child in their classroom for pastries with parents from 7:15am-8am! This is a great opportunity to say hello to your child's teacher and see all the hard work they've been doing in their classroom since the start of school!

- **September 14:** 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade
- **September 15:** Kindergarten, 4th and 5th grade

 **Gifted Eligibility Testing-Parent Referrals:** The window to request a parent referral for Gifted Eligibility Testing this school year is open from September 1 through September 30.

[CLICK HERE](#) for Parent Referral Informational Video and FAQs  
[CLICK HERE](#) for Online Request for Parent Referral Form


 **SPARK STEAM Newsletter:** Our commitment to STEAM education SPARKles! Read our STEAM newsletter to learn more about how each grade level is using STEAM in their classrooms [HERE!](#)



## Reminders

 **Join SPARK's Parent Teacher Organization:**

We strive to have 100% of families join the PTO, which helps support the enrichment, community, and fundraising of our school. Click [THIS LINK](#) to join the PTO for the 23-24 school year!

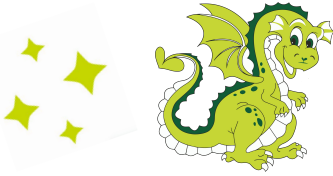
 **Parent Portal:** Do you want to have access to your child's class schedules, attendance records and grades? Then [CLICK HERE](#) to learn how to create a Parent Portal account on Infinite Campus today! Questions? Contact Kim Ryan at kimberly.ryan@apsk12.org

# PRINCIPAL'S CORNER



## SPRINGDALE PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Dr. Jennifer Toney, Principal • Mrs. Sara Prueff, Assistant Principal  
803 Briarcliff Road, NE Atlanta, GA 30306 (404) 802-6051




### “D” is for Determination





As we embark on another academic year filled with promise and possibilities, I want to take a moment to address a topic that is essential to our children's success and personal growth – determination.


Determination is a quality that empowers individuals to set goals, persevere through challenges, and ultimately achieve their dreams. It is a cornerstone of success, both in academics and in life. As parents, your role in instilling determination in your children is invaluable.


Encouraging and fostering determination in our children starts with open and honest conversations. I urge you to engage in discussions with your children about the importance of determination in their academic journey. Here are some key points to consider when talking to your kids about determination:


 **Set Realistic Goals:** Help your children set achievable goals for themselves, both academically and personally. Break down large goals into smaller, manageable steps, so they can track their progress and feel a sense of accomplishment along the way.

 **Embrace Challenges:** Teach your children that challenges are opportunities for growth. Share your own experiences of facing challenges and how you overcame them. Encourage them to view setbacks as learning experiences.

 **Perseverance:** Remind your children that success often requires hard work and determination. Encourage them to stay committed to their goals, even when things get tough. Share stories of famous individuals who achieved greatness through determination and resilience.

 **Celebrate Effort:** Emphasize the importance of effort over outcome. Praise their hard work, dedication, and persistence, regardless of whether they achieve immediate success. This helps build their self-esteem and motivates them to keep trying.

 **Be a Role Model:** Children often learn by observing their parents. Demonstrate determination in your own life, whether it's in pursuing your career, tackling personal challenges, or pursuing your own passions.

 **Open Communication:** Create a safe and open environment for your children to discuss their goals, fears, and aspirations. Listen to their concerns and offer guidance and support without judgment.

Remember that determination is a lifelong skill that goes beyond the classroom. It equips our children with the mindset and resilience needed to face life's challenges and achieve their dreams.

With Love,  
*Dr. Jennifer Toney*

**A B C'S**  
**OF SPARK**