

WEEK OF JANUARY 15TH

SPARK FAMILY

# NEWSLETTER



## Calendar

**January 16:** 5th Grade GATE Field Trip

**January 17:** 3rd Grade Field Trip

**January 19:** 4th Grade GATE Field trip

**January 19:**

- 100th Day of School
- 4th Grade GATE Field trip
- 5th Grade Bowling Night

**January 25:** GMAS Parent Academy


**January 28:** SPARK @ ATL Hawks Game


**February 1:** Sign up for the Pre-K lottery


<https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/67411>



## Events


 **SPARK @ Atlanta Hawks:** Please come out and support our SPARK Chorus and AC kids as they sing the US and Canadian National Anthems on Sunday, January 28th at 6:00pm! Each ticket sale include \$10 worth of concession stand credit. [CLICK HERE](#) to get your tickets NOW to ensure you get this deal!


 **GMAS Parent Academy:** Would you like to learn more about the Georgia Milestones Assessment System? Join us for a virtual information session on January 25th at 5:30pm. Open to families in 3rd - 5th grade. More information will be forthcoming.

 Support the PTO and enjoy a fun night at an ATL United game! Sign up to go to the [Atlanta United Game](#) on Apr 20, 2024.



## Announcements:

 **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 HERE](#) to join the PTO for the 23-24 school year!

 **Yearbook:** Have you purchased a yearbook yet for the 23-24 school year? [CLICK HERE](#) to pre-order!

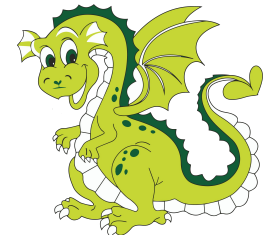
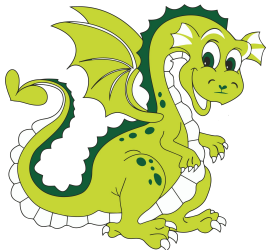
**Rising Rams Family Night:** If your 5th grader will be attending David T. Howard next year, plan to attend Rams Family Night on January 30 from 5:30-7pm. This is a great time to see the campus and gather information!

# 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



### “R” is for Resilience

Dear SPARK Families,

As we embark on the second half of our school year, and look towards end of grade assessments, I want to share with you our collective goal of fostering resilience in our students.

At SPARK, we recognize that challenges are an inevitable part of life. Instead of shielding our children from challenge, we are committed to empowering our students to persist in the face of obstacles. Resilience is a key attribute that prepares students for the real world, helping them navigate life's ups and downs with confidence.

Central to this mindset is our emphasis on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) education. STEAM provides a foundation that goes beyond academic knowledge, encouraging problem-solving, creativity, and critical thinking skills. Through the Engineering and Design Process, we explicitly teach our students to reflect on the implementation of their ideas and make modifications to improve their desired outcomes. These skills are essential in building a mindset of resilience and enabling our students to approach challenges with adaptability.

By integrating STEAM into all we do, we aim to instill a love for learning, curiosity, and the ability to face challenges head-on. Together, as a community, we can ensure that our children not only excel academically but also develop the resilience needed to thrive in an ever-changing world.

Although SPARK is already STEM Certified through Cognia, we have recently joined a cohort of schools to embark upon the exciting journey of documenting our STEAM work through the state's rigorous STEAM certification process. We welcome this as an opportunity to share all of the wonderful ways in which your children display persistence and resilience on a daily basis.

STEAM education and fostering a spirit of resilience is not possible without our amazing community. Thank you for your continued support in shaping our dragons into the leaders and problem-solvers of tomorrow!

With Love,

***Dr. Jennifer Toney***