



Wings of Excellence

Eagle Ridge Elementary School
"Soaring for Excellence"

October 2009

220 North ABC Street
Milledgeville, Georgia

New Face in the Office

By: **Erich Fietkau** and **Noah Hay**

Do you want to know more about your school secretary? Well, this is the article for you. Mrs. Swint is Eagle Ridge's new secretary. She came to us after the closing of the Alternative School held at the Davis Academy.

She has a lot of experience. She has been a school secretary for more than sixteen years. She has worked at every level, high school, BOE, and now elementary. She became a school secretary when her children started school to be more involved with their education and to explore the education system first hand. Although being a school secretary can be challenging at times, she loves being with and helping people from the students, to the parents, to the staff and faculty. Right now she is even furthering her own education. She is currently a student at GCSU studying Psychology.

On a personal note, Mrs. Swint has three girls ages 22, 20, and sixteen. Her oldest daughter is studying to become a nurse, her middle daughter is studying to become a therapist, and her youngest daughter is a junior at BHS and does hair in her spare time.

Mrs. Swint's hobbies include traveling, reading, meeting new people, and trying new foods. Her favorite pet was named Porshie, but unfortunately he was stolen. She hasn't decided to buy another pet at this time because she doesn't want to get so attached again.

We hope to get real attached to our new secretary, so she won't leave any time soon! Welcome to Eagle Ridge Elementary!



A Word from Our Principal

Dear Eagle Ridge Parent/s,

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year. We are off to a great start at Eagle Ridge Elementary. We are very excited about the many wonderful academic adventures your child will take this school year as we travel through time and space to many faraway lands. Our journeys are limited only by our imagination. Our motto is "Soaring for excellence: Excellence begins with you and me". Through academic adventures, all students are encouraged to soar to new horizons. Our focus this year is academic excellence, and we will again make AYP.

We encourage all parents to become active members of our Eagle Ridge family by joining PTO, volunteering to serve at school and on PTO activity committees, reading a book to a class, sharing career information, chaperoning field trips or just visiting your child's classroom. We value you as parents and welcome all support. Remember if it takes a village to raise a child, then the village must take an active role in the education of its children. Let's work together to become a true learning village at ERE.

Parents are encouraged to monitor your children's academic growth during the year. Students in grades 1-5 must meet or exceed the minimum standards on the CRCT in reading to be promoted to the next grade level; fifth graders must also pass math. Students need to come to school daily; reducing the number of absences always has a positive effect on academic achievement. **With your support, we will definitely make AYP this year.**

Thanks for your continued support as we continue to "soar for excellence" at Eagle Ridge Elementary. Always remember and that excellence begins with you (parents, students, and our learning village) and me (the ERE faculty and staff). We look forward to a great year!

Sincerely,
Jeanette Scott

Important Dates

October 19-23, 2009	Fall Break
November 16, 2009	PTO Meeting
November 16, 2009	Progress Reports go home
November 23 - 27, 2009	Thanksgiving Break
December 7 - 15, 2009	Secret Santa Shop
December 17-18, 2009	Early Dismissal

Contributing authors and illustrators for this edition of *Wings of Excellence* are students from the classes of Ms. Brandt, Mrs. Dominy, Ms. Barbee, Mrs. Burns, Mrs. Dunn, Mrs. Allen, Mr. Pruet, Mrs. Coburn, Mrs. Etheridge, and Mrs. Meeks..

Kindergarten



Our "Virtual" field trip to Mexico

By: Ms. Dominy & Mrs. Wood's Kindergarten Class

Our class concluded a unit on Mexico by taking a "virtual" field trip with our student-made passports, airline tickets, and packed bags. While visiting Mexico, we were able to participate in a Mexican fiesta. Upon "returning" home, we were able to share what we liked best from our "trip".

- I like the color words. (**Skyler Batchelor**)
- I like the piñata. (**Gavin Davis**)
- I like the sombrero. (**Kyandre Dennis**)
- I like the Mexican bean dip. (**Bryce Hargrove**)
- I like the pin the tail on the donkey game. (**Cambrie Harrison**)
- I like the flag. (**Vaniya Hazel**)
- I like the spanish numbers. (**Jameer Hurt**)
- I like the Mexican clothes. (**Danielle Jackson**)
- I like the dancing. (**Jaquan Moore**)
- I like the passports we made. (**Char'Quavious Nesbitt**)
- I like the words they say. (**Keymadi Pinkston**)
- I like the map of Mexico. (**Aniya Roberts**)
- I like the people. (**Jamarus Shinholster**)
- I like Mexico. (**Donqulia Simmons**)
- I like the airplane ride. (**Ashton Trawick**)
- I like the way they sound. (**Shy'Keria Waller**)
- I like making a piñata. (**Trevon Waller**)
- I like the Mexican mask. (**Aniya Whipple**)
- I like the food they eat. (**Crystal Williams**)
- I like the map of Mexico. (**Katlyn Wood**)
- I like everything about Mexico. (**Mary Louise Wooters**)



Miss Brandt's Class responses
to the story Here Are My Hands by Sue Williams



- Our legs help us walk. (**Daylin Wright**)
- Our mouth helps us eat. (**Ka'ane Rapier**)
- Our hands help us touch. (**Shynice Watkins**)
- Our feet help us stomp. (**Ky'onna Worthen**)
- Our ears help us to hear people. (**Rant'avious Johnson**)
- Our ears help us to hear a vacuum cleaner. (**Keishawn Smith**)
- Our nose helps us to smell chicken. (**Shatoria Jackson**)
- Our feet help us walk. (**Davin Driskell**)
- Our nose helps us smell food. (**Yaasming Rios**)
- Our ears help us hear the computers. (**Kiersten Brown**)
- Our mouth helps us taste mashed potatoes. (**Christopher Burke**)
- Our elbows help us lean on the table. (**Ky'Amber Butts**)
- Our eyes help us cry. (**Kaytisiya Gettes-el**)
- Our head are used for helping us to think. (**Ny'asia Bundrage**)
- Our hands help us touch. (**Marquez Hunt**)
- Our ears help us to listen to the teacher. (**Nicholas Dykes**)
- Our feet help us tap. (**Diamond Barrett**)
- Our nose helps us smell flowers. (**Mantileto Holmes**)
- Our legs help us run. (**Syee Havior**)
- Our eyes help us to see books. (**Maggie Roberts**)
- Our hands help us to touch toys. (**Isaac Shipman**)



First Grade

Nariah Hodges

I like President Obama because he is a great man. He is special. He is smart. He is cool. He is black.

Jaquez Russell

I like President Obama because he is cool looking. He is a nice man. He makes lots of money. He likes to help our country.



Alecia Davis

I like President Obama because he is cool! He is black. He makes lots of money. He is special. He talks very well. He is a nice man.

T. J. King

I am special. No one is just like me. My hands are special too. My hands feed me food. My hands help me read. My hands dress me. My hands wash me.



Quanesha Deverow

I like President Obama because he is a special person. He is cool and smart. He is nice and smart. He cares about us.

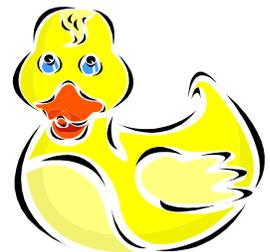
T'Asia Warren

No one is just like me. I am special. So are my hands. My hands help me eat food. My hands help me clap. My hands help me dress. My hands rub backs. My hands turn pages.

Ms.Barbee's/Ms. Dunn's Class

Students were read 10 Little Rubber Ducks by Eric Carle. This book was inspired when a crate of rubber ducks fell off a cargo ship and spilled in the ocean. The students had to think of something that an 11th duck would see and write a sentence.

- The 11th rubber duck saw a big fish chasing a bug. **JaMyiah May**
- The 11th rubber duck saw a snake. The rubber duck ate it. **Takazi Robinson**
- The 11th rubber duck saw a penguin yelling and it chased the duck. **Cody Berry**
- The 11th rubber duck saw a crab crawling. **Camesha Butts**
- The 11th rubber duck saw a fish swimming with a sea turtle. **Lamia Hughey**
- The 11th rubber duck saw a squid. **Terrance Dantzler**
- The 11th rubber duck saw a shark and was eaten up! **Michael Meyers**



Students were read Bad Dog, Marley! The book describes different ways Marley was a bad dog. The students had to think of ways Marley could be a good dog, and write a sentence describing Marley being good.

- Marley is a good dog when he sits. **Emily Berry**
- Marley is a good dog when he plays fetch. **Camesha Butts**
- Marley is a good dog when he walks kids home. **Lamia Hughey**
- Marley is a good dog when he gets quiet. **Garyuntae Ivey**
- Marley is a good dog when he plays Hide-n-go-seek. **Cody Berry**
- Marley is a good dog when he helps. **Javan Mitchell**





Second Grade

Going on the Rollercoaster by Antonio May

Last summer I went to Six Flags. I went to the rollercoaster. The rollercoaster had different colors. It was orange and purple. I went to get on the rollercoaster then that's when my brother and sister came. The rollercoaster was kind of scary and fun. We held hands to keep from being scared. The rollercoaster went very fast. It blew my cotton candy away!

Getting My Teddybear

Yesterday afternoon I went to the store. I wanted a teddybear. The teddybear was brown and fuzzy. It was about as big as a ruler. The teddybear was soft and cuddly. I got the teddybear, and we went to the checkout.

Courtney Adams



Monkeys

I went to the Arts and Science Museum. I saw monkeys. I felt happy, and they looked so happy. They looked fuzzy and brown, and they were funny. I heard them eeking and saw them shaking their toys. I felt so good. I felt like it was the best time ever.

Gaby Nicoson

The Whales

I went to the GA Aquarium this summer. My favorite thing was the whales. They were white. They were huge! There were four whales. They did flips. It looked like they were staring at me. Watching the whales was awesome!

Amariayah Hart



The Hurricane

Last year I went to the fair. My favorite ride was the Hurricane. You sit down on it and it goes around and around really fast. I heard a lot of screaming. I was screaming, too! It was so scary. Then the ride was over, and I got on it again. The Hurricane was amazing!

--Star Glenn

The Beach by Isaac McClain

One day I went to Savannah, and we had to drive in a bus. Then we finally got there. It was a long way. We ordered a room and we went out to eat. Then we went back to the hotel. When it was night we went to the indoor swimming pool. I had a fun time!

My Favorite Animal by Xzavier Mitchell

I went to the Atlanta Zoo. I saw a goat and I petted it. I brushed it too. I saw a big goat and it was lying down. The zoo keeper put it in a cage and then walked away. We just kept feeling the other ones and they were soft.

My PSP by TREVOR LEWIS

ONE CHRISTMAS I GOT THE BEST PRESENT IN THE WORLD. IT WAS WRAPPED IN BLUE WRAPPING PAPER. IT HAD A YELLOW NAME TAG. INSIDE THE WRAPPING PAPER WAS A BROWN BOX. IN THE BOX WAS A PSP. IT WAS RED. IT ALSO HAD A MAN'S HEAD ON THE BACK. IT FELT SMOOTH. I PLAYED WITH MY PSP ALL DAY.

Otters

Watching the otters at the GA Aquarium was fun. Otters are brown and fuzzy. Otters are neat. Otters like to jump in the water and swim. It really stunk! It stunk so bad that everyone had to plug their noses. When an otter comes out of the water, it really stinks up the aquarium. The otters were eating clams. Otters have leathery fur when you brush down their sides. I was really happy to see the otters. I like otters.

Destiny Ingram

The Pool Day by Emily Arp

Last Saturday I went to my grandmother's house. When we got there we got into the pool. When I got in the pool, the water was cold. Then Mommy said she was coming in the pool. We all played volleyball in the pool.

The Roller Coaster by Amiya Northern

I was so happy when I heard I was going to Disneyworld. I went on the Aerosmith roller coaster. I heard loud music and people screaming. I felt sick. I thought it was not going upside down but it did. I almost fell out when it went upside down. It had pop-ups, and it was really dark. When I got off I felt so happy I could get some air. It was really fun!



Third Grade

Mr. Pruett's students have been working on using strong vocabulary to "boost" their writing!

A Special Trip!

Today I went to the museum and I saw an armor made of metal. I saw some troops waving and saying farewell in a poster. Then, I saw a statue of a fox captured by a man. Today was a triumphant day I thought if I had captured that fox. After the museum, I went outside to play with my comrades. The playing got so fierce, because I did not get to see everything. Then the class got back on the bus and went back to school. I knew that I had endured another day!

--By **Makaleiah Wells**



My Dad

My Dad went to war. He had 2,429 troops with him. They wore suits of armor. He had a lot of comrades. When they got into the war, they captured one of their enemies. When they were in the woods they ran into a fierce bear. They were victorious because they defeated the enemy. One hundred three people died. The rest endured war. When they got back to the base they all said farewell and came home.

By **Aaron Meade**

Victorious Troops

The troops went off to war and gave their last farewell to their wife and kids. They were covered in full body armor. They fought for months and months. The fight was very fierce and they captured a lot of prisoners. The comrades were victorious after all they endured. The troops were triumphant!

By **Kendrell Watts**



War!

By **Brandon Burns**

As the troops were ready for war, the people said, "Farewell!" They put on their body armor and went to war. They endured pain and suffering. They captured their enemies and were triumphant. The fierce enemy didn't give in though! After a long battle we were victorious! Before long my comrades and I came home.

The Fight

Once upon a time there was an endured man. He was a triumphant man. He had armor on, and he had troops with him. He also had many comrades, too. The man was victorious. He had been in many battles. The man said that he had to leave the fight and said farewell.

-- **Cassey Graves**

A Far Away Place

By **Casha Hill**

Once upon a time there was a fight. The troops were ready to fight. One team was wearing armor. The other time did not wear armor. One team was fierce. At the end of the fight only one team was victorious! One man was very tired, but he knew he had to endure it until the end. Both teams could not win the fight, so one team gave up!

Going to War

The troops went to war for the captured soldiers. They had a victorious win over their enemies. They endured until the end of the battle in their green and black armor. Finally, it was time for the comrades to say their farewells!

By **Jalen Tucker**





Fourth Grade

Summer Fun By Sarah Gladin

I hear screaming kids,
I hear kids singing,
I smell breakfast coming,
I smell fresh air,
I see happy movements,
I see fun games,
I feel happy,
I feel helpful,
Camp Victory is the place to be!



Night of a Full Moon By Tre Banks

I hear seagulls
screaming,
I hear the wind,
I smell fresh air,
I smell the sea,
I see a full moon,
I see many shining
stars,
I feel very calm,
I feel wide awake.
I'm on the beach
and there is a full
moon.

Fun! Fun! By Victoria Smith

I hear people screaming,
I hear loud music,
I smell corn dogs,
I smell funnel cakes,
I see lots of people,
I see stuffed animals,
I feel excited,
But I also feel nervous,
The fair is my favorite place to go!!



EARTH

Earth is full of nature.
Always try to recycle.
Remember to take care of our resources.
Take care of our whole environment.
Home for you and me as the years keep coming!
by **Shaquez Hightower**

Seasons

*Seasons come every year,
Bringing lots of fun and cheer!
In the winter, you can have hot cocoa in the snow,
In the summer, you can travel anywhere you want to go!*
By *Ashton Chambers*

Relaxing at the Ocean By Brittany Trawick

I hear water splashing on the shore,
I hear people chatting;
I smell the salty water,
I smell the suntan lotion;
I see the sandcastles,
I see people in the ocean;
I feel relaxed,
I feel cool;
I love the ocean!

I Love Home By Janayia Davis

I hear food sizzling,
I hear my little brothers' feet running
through the house,
I smell the air freshener,
I smell home cooked food,
I see family,
I see television,
I feel happy, I feel loved,
Home is my favorite place to be.



Storms

Thunderstorms

Wet, Loud

Raining, Flooding

Lightening, Thunder, Snow,

Accumulation

Blowing, Windy

Snowstorms

By *TyKell Pitts*



Fifth Grade



Guess who's New To Fourth Grade?

By: **Olivia Pelton & Addie Meade**

Well it's Mrs. Etheridge. She is a reading/language arts teacher here at Eagle Ridge Elementary. She transferred from Midway Elementary. This is her 18th year teaching. Wow! Eighteen years ago she started at Southside Elementary where she taught 5th grade. Later she transferred to Midway where she taught 5th and 3rd. She has taught 3rd grade for 11 years. This is her first year ever teaching 4th grade.

She first became a teacher because she loved working with children. The thing that she likes most about teaching is that no two days are ever the same. She also loves meeting and getting to know lots of children and learning as the students learn. However, the thing that she likes the least about teaching is all of the new paperwork and the time that it takes to get it all done, the long nights and weekends. If she ever stopped teaching, she would be an interior designer because she loves decorating and shopping!

Let's get to know her a little more personally. She has been married for 21 years to her husband, Jimmy. She has two wonderful children, Erika (age 19) and Brad (age 15). Erika is in her 2nd year of college, and Brad is in the 10th grade.

When Mrs. Etheridge is not teaching or working on paperwork, she loves to shop, read, bake, and spend time with her family and friends. She has a 5 year old Yorkie-poo dog named Ivey. She enjoys watching her son play baseball for GMC. She likes to read murder/suspense novels. Her favorite getaway place is Savannah. She likes Savannah because, like Milledgeville, it has great Southern history.

We are so glad that Mrs. Etheridge came to ERE, and we wish her the best this year!



Knock Knock! Who's There?

By: **Megan Leben & Alex Bradley**



It's Miss Carmichael! Miss Carmichael is a new third grade teacher at Eagle Ridge and new to the world of teaching. She is a science and social studies teacher. She came to Eagle Ridge because she was given the opportunity to teach her two favorite subjects, science and social studies. She became a teacher because she wanted to make a difference in children's lives, and she loves to see children learn. She considered many occupations like being a pilot, a chef, an astronaut, a veterinarian, or a teacher. She is glad she chose teaching though, and so is the faculty and students at Eagle Ridge.

Miss Carmichael's mom and youngest sister live all the way across the Atlantic Ocean in the country of Turkey. Her mother is also a teacher. Her dad lives in Arkansas and works as an insurance salesman. She has another sister who lives in Albany, Georgia and works as a nurse. She also has a sister who is in college at Valdosta State.

When Miss Carmichael is away from school she loves to play with her orange cat named Chloe. She also likes to cook, run, fish and travel. In fact, her favorite place to visit is the beach.

We want to extend a warm welcome to Miss Carmichael!! We hope she has a WONDERFUL year at Eagle Ridge Elementary.

Fun at the Beach

I went to the beach. The water was cold, but I didn't care. I found lots of seashells. It was very exciting. I was so happy to be there. I fell off of my boogie board a few times. The beach was beautiful and the waves were awesome. The sunset was beautiful, too. I watched it while I was still in the water.

--Abby Downie

Fun Day with my Church

One day I went to Carowinds. I went with my church. The first ride I rode was the Rugrats. It was very scary. It is a roller coaster that goes upside down. I got on and the ride was very fast. I almost threw up. When the ride was over I said, "I am never going on that ride again!" Then it was time to go home, and I fell right to sleep and slept all the way home.

--Nakaiya Cogdell

A Trip to the Zoo

I went to the zoo. I saw a lion. I liked how it looked. It was fuzzy. It smelled bad, and it was loud. The mom had no mane. Its teeth were yellow. I saw its tongue and claws. I saw the babies. The lion was climbing lots of things.

-- Joseph Moats

The Water Slide

We got ready for Trinity's party at her house. I put on my bathing suit. We went outside in the front. When I got in the water it felt cold to me. On the left side there were bars you used to climb up. I held onto the side of it. It was as high as a tree. I screamed when I went down!

-- Keanu Curry

My New Badge

I went to Cub Scouts and got a badge. It is my camping badge. That means I can go camping now. It has a picture of me in space. The badge is unique and valuable. All Cub Scouts should have the badge. They need to wear the badge while camping.

--Cauy Wall

The Good Elephant

I went to the zoo and saw an elephant. It was gray. I got to feed him. It smelled nasty. The elephant did what the lady told him to do. Then I told him to come here and he didn't do it. That made me sad. So I asked the lady to tell the elephant to come here and he came over here. His skin felt soft.

--Jilisia Clark

The Aquarium

When I went to the aquarium I saw a shark. It was swimming around and smelled horrible. It was a huge blue shark. I saw its teeth and they were yellow. I felt happy that it did not bite me!

--Demonte' McCrary

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Cousin Harry

One day this summer, my granny and I went to see my second cousin Harry. He was in the hospital because he couldn't walk. When we got to the hospital we stayed there for a little while and talked to him. He had a TV in his room. Mostly my granny talked to him. I just sat there. Then I got crackers and juice from the nurse for a snack. Before we left the nurse gave me a stuffed frog. Then we went to the hotel for the night. I hope that Cousin Harry will be able to walk again someday.

-- Gabby Warnock

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