

DECEMBER 2023
GATOR TALES
CHATHAM GROVE PTA NEWS

GOOD NEWS GATORS!

Happy December to all! I can't believe 2023 is almost over. We are so excited that some of our students are heading out for field trips next week thanks to all of your support from Boosterthon! Our fourth annual Holiday Lights Event is next Friday, December 8th. Please sign up to volunteer and please please join us for a night of friendship and community! This is one of my favorite events of the year!

Go Gators! 🐊 Jen Sparks (CGE PTA President)

Important Dates

No Classes

- December 15 (Early Release)
- December 18 - January 2 (Winter Break)

Events

- Dec 1: Class Spelling Bees
- Dec 8: CGE Holiday Lights (5 - 7 PM)
- Dec 11 - 15: Holiday Spirit Week

Let's Celebrate

Staff Birthdays

- Dec 14: Ms. Remes (Kindergarten IA)
- Dec 24: Ms. LaBella (2nd Grade)
- Dec 30: Mr. Vaidya (IA)

Check out the [Staff Wishlist & Favorites](#) to learn more about your teachers and what they need (check back for updates!)



UPCOMING EVENTS



Holiday Lights Volunteers: This event requires strong volunteer involvement to make it a success! We will need help throughout the day for set up as well as during the event.

[Check out the signup link to volunteer!](#)

Holiday Inflatables Needed: If you have a festive inflatable that you would like to donate/loan to use at our event, it would be greatly appreciated!! We need inflatables by the evening of December 6th. If you would have an inflatable you would allow us to borrow, we would return it the morning of December 9th. **[Find more details and sign up at the link.](#)**

Jersey Mike's at Holiday Lights! Looking for a dinner option at this year's Holiday Lights? You can preorder Jersey Mike's subs to have available to eat as you walkabout! Pickup for subs is from 5:00p-5:30p at the event.

[Order here by December 6th at 9am.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Black and Yellow Day!

December 1

Classroom Spelling Bees are on December 1st! We know you are “buzzing” with excitement -- show off your spirit by wearing **Black and Yellow** to school this day.

One winner from each class will go on to the school spelling bee on January 8th!



Holiday Give Back to Our Staff

As the holiday season approaches, it's our turn to spread some warmth and appreciation to our amazing staff members. The PTA is organizing treats, sweets, and a special gift-wrapping session to show the love, and we need your help!

How can you help?

- Make holiday cookies or treats to share!
- Hand out Candy Canes! S
- Set Up and Serve Food!

[Sign Up HERE!](#)

Gift Wrappers Needed!

December 13

We invite you to join the PTA on December 13th at CGE for a joyful gift-wrapping event.

Your assistance in wrapping the staff gifts will add a personal touch and show our staff how much they are valued.

Give an hour of your time by [signing up HERE](#).



UPCOMING EVENTS

Holiday Spirit Week

DECEMBER 11 - 15



CHATHAM GROVE'S

Holiday Spirit Week

DEC 11-15 JOIN US IN SPREADING HOLIDAY CHEER WITH A FESTIVE SPIRIT WEEK!	MONDAY MERRY MONDAY ----- WEAR YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY CLOTHES OR COLORS!	TUESDAY BABY IT'S COLD OUTSIDE ----- WEAR A WARM HAT OR SCARF!
WEDNESDAY WINTER WONDERLAND ----- WEAR WHITE FOR SNOWY WISHES!	THURSDAY TINSEL TOES THURSDAY ----- WEAR YOUR FAVORITE COZY HOLIDAY SOCKS	FRIDAY T'WAS THE NIGHT ----- WEAR YOUR FAVORITE PAJAMAS!

LATEST NEWS & UPDATES

CGE Candy Drive

Drumroll, please!... Our fantastic 2nd graders emerged victorious in the Candy Drive Contest, amassing over 40 pounds of sweetness for SECU Family House at UNC Hospitals! A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed - together, we've gathered nearly 250 pounds of candy to spread joy and support. Your generosity is making a difference! #CandyDriveChamps #SECUFamilyHouse #GratitudeOverflowing

To learn more about the SECU Family House please visit <https://www.secufamilyhouse.org/>

To further support the SECU Family House please check out their Amazon Wish List. Pantry food items are always needed and beyond appreciated.

<https://www.secufamilyhouse.org/support/wish-list>

Our 2nd graders enjoyed a delicious popcorn treat to celebrate their victory!



LATEST NEWS & UPDATES

Pie Sale Success!

Our Thanksgiving Pie Fundraiser with Carolina Craving Co. helped raise \$935! The proceeds will go toward supplies needed student clubs.

Thank you to all who helped by buying one or all the flavors or passing out pies!

We had 187 pies to pass out to our CGE friends and families!!

The most ordered were Chocolate Chess and Pecan Followed closely behind by Pumpkin and Apple Crumble. All were smelling delicious!



MORE WAYS TO SUPPORT CGE

Red for Ed Parent Group



Teachers and staff at Chatham Grove Elementary have organized a Red For Ed campaign with two goals on their agenda:

1. Recruit and retain high quality teachers.
2. Ensure CGE has the materials available for students to be successful.

We are at the starting point for organizing a parent group that will support this movement and these goals. We believe that if educators and parents come together, we will be much more successful in advocating for our students and school. We welcome any level of involvement and ideas!

Our general goal is to organize and plan in the next few months, then attend Board of Education meetings starting in the early spring before budget decisions are made for the following school year.

Sign up [HERE](#) for more information or to join this effort.

If you have further questions, please reach out to Lauren Shepherd at la.shepherd@yahoo.com

BOX TOP\$ For Education

CGE has a BOX TOP\$ for Education Account! Earning is EASY!

CGE School ID is 9684261



**BUY
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Earn for schools with HUNDREDS of products from brands you love.



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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Cafeteria

Assist teachers & children during lunch!

- Monitor lunchroom
- Help lunch lines run efficiently
- Hand out food items

Daily

Three 1-hour shifts (10:15a - 1:15p)

PTA Thrift Shop

Assist at the thrift shop to support GCE!

- Stock items
- Hang and sort donations
- Organize the shop

Children 10y+ can sign up too!

Staff Workroom

Assist staff with workroom requests!

- Make copies
- Laminate
- Assembles materials
- And more!

Daily

Pick your time!

1 hour (or more), decide how long you stay!

Morning Car Line

Give students an extra hand!

- Help students exit their cars
- Guide through walker line
- Assist finding their class
- Help students carry school supplies

Daily

7:25 - 8 AM

Please plan to stay for entire time slot!

CGE thanks these local businesses for supporting our school!

