

GIFTED GAZETTE

Ben Hill County Schools

A Note from the Gifted Coordinator

March is Gifted Month across the state of Georgia. We applaud the students who continue to display their talents and abilities as they pursue their educational journeys. We thank the teachers who inspire these students in the classroom and beyond.

Susan Henry
Gifted Coordinator
Ben Hill County Schools
susan.henry@benhillschools.org
229-409-5500 Ext. 5811



BHCS Headlines



Superintendent Woods names 2023 AP Honor Schools

"The number of AP Honor Schools increased by more than 14%, which serves as a testament to our commitment to expand opportunities for Georgia students, including advanced and accelerated coursework," said Superintendent Richard Woods. The 2023 AP Honor Schools are named in eight categories based on the results of 2022 AP courses and exams. AP exams are administered by the College Board, which also administers the SAT. AP courses are one of several ways Georgia students can access college-level learning while in high school. Fitzgerald High School College and Career Academy was recognized as an AP Access and Support School.



MARCH IS

GIFTED EDUCATION MONTH

Celebrate

★ YOUR STUDENTS

Celebrating Gifted Education Month

BHCS Gifted Certified Staff

BEN HILL COUNTY PRESCHOOL



Not pictured: Kandace Carelock & Jennifer Giddens

BEN HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL



BEN HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



BEN HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL



FITZGERALD HIGH SCHOOL COLLEGE & CAREER ACADEMY



We thank you for the role you play in shaping the the lives of the students you teach.



More BHCS Headlines



BHCS Teachers Attend GAGC Convention

BHCS teachers attended the Georgia Association for Gifted Children's annual convention in Athens March 6-7. This year's theme was Creating Gifted Connections: Past, Present, and Future. Keynote speakers were Emily Kircher-Morris and Lisa Van Germert. Emily is a supporter of twice-exceptional learners and is president and founder of the Gifted Support Network. Lisa is an expert consult to the television show, *Child Genius* on Lifetime.



Pictured: John Hadden, Cindy Griffin, Anna Branch, Keri Reese, Kelly Kight, Christopher Swords, Courtney Straub, & Susan Spivey





This resource is filled with multiple materials for teachers and parents of gifted kids. Articles for tips, labs, competitions and more can be found here. The websites are full of ideas for crafting, art, music, reading, math, science, geography, history, writing, and more. Games include top rated games for preschool through elementary age students. Time tested book lists for primary through middle grades are also available.

thekidstory.com



FEATURED GIFTED TEACHER

Diane Hardin



Diane attended Grand Canyon University and received her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and Special Education. She also obtained her Gifted Endorsement. She has been teaching second grade at Ben Hill Primary School since 2019.

Diane is married to Jeremy and is the mother of three girls and one boy...Erica, Rylee, Raegan, and Rob. She enjoys the outdoors, and spending time with her family at the beach.



TAKE A LOOK

Gifted Challenges Blogspot

These blogs are written by teachers, parents, therapists, and researchers. They describe parenting dilemmas, personal triumphs and struggles, and researched-based strategies that work. The blogs found on the website were selected because of their focus on the social and emotional aspects of giftedness.

giftedchallenges.blogspot.com

Great teachers have high expectations for their students, but higher expectations for themselves.

-Todd Whitaker

More BHCS Headlines



Teaching High-Ability Students at BHC Preschool

by Susan Henry

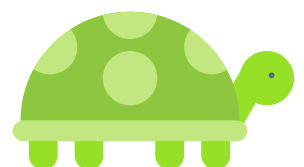
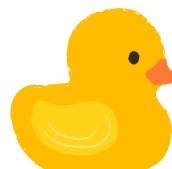
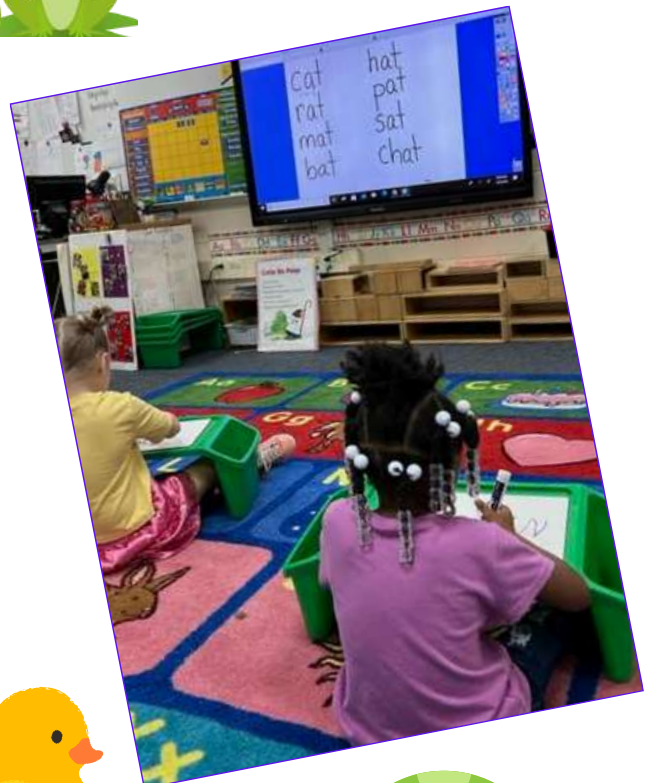
I had the recent opportunity to visit BHC Preschool. I was most impressed with the hard work and dedication of the teachers.

While there, I visited with Mrs. Debra Lampkin, teacher of one of the three year old classes. She was excited to tell what her students, the Tiny Turtles, are learning at such a young age...letters, sounds, numbers, writing their names, and more. I also visited in Ms. Caroline Tucker's four year old class, the Green Frogs. The students were excited about their learning.

Ms. Tucker met with the students in small groups where she worked with them at their instructional levels. Several of the high-ability students are writing and beginning to read independently. They are learning about rhyming words and word families. The last classroom I visited was Mrs. Brenda Rowe's, Yellow Ducks. She was excited to share how she works to meet the needs of her students all while challenging those with high-abilities. She uses her "Morning Message" time to advance the students as far as possible. Several of her high-ability students are writing, beginning to read, answering addition problems, and more.

Mrs. Jaquetta Brown is the BHC Preschool Coordinator.

**Student registration is now underway.
Call Central Registration @ 229-409-5575
or BHC Preschool @229-409-5598.**





3 Rules to Spark Learning

It took a life-threatening condition to jolt chemistry teacher Ramsey Musallam out of ten years of "pseudo-teaching" to understand the true role of the educator.

TRAIN YOUR BRAIN



Doing crossword puzzles, Sudoku games, jigsaw puzzles and other games that rely on logic, math, word and visuospatial skills are great ways to increase brainpower. These types of games require multiple cognitive abilities, which challenges the brain and improves processing speed and memory.

Try this:



DID YOU KNOW?

Gifted children can have overexcitabilities (OE's).

A constant buzzing sound which causes extreme irritability and the inability to move on until the sound is located and stopped or the gritty texture on her mom's turkey gravy which causes a gifted teen to totally refrain from eating the family's holiday dinner are all examples of OE's.



Gifted Friendships: Age Mate vs. True Peer

FROM THE DAVIDSON INSTITUTE



As a parent (or teacher) of a highly gifted child, have you ever felt like you were talking to a mini adult?

Many gifted students tend to grasp advanced concepts, participate in conversations well beyond their years, and hit developmental milestones early on.

[Read full article.](#)

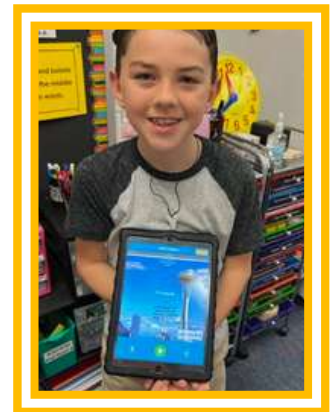
More BHCS Headlines



Famous U.S. Landmarks

Ben Hill Primary School students in Mrs. Kelly Kight and Mrs. Karen Peck's gifted classes are learning about famous landmarks as part of their study of the United States. Each student selected a famous landmark and completed research surrounding the landmark.

The students are now working on a project they selected from a choice board. Students were able to choose to complete a poster, make a commercial, create a quiz, make flashcards, write a song/rap, and more. Students will present their completed projects in the coming days.



GREAT RESOURCE

Best Science Experiments for High School Labs & Science Fairs

[Biology Experiments](#)

[Chemistry Experiments](#)

[Physics Experiments](#)



From...

WE ARE
TEACHERS



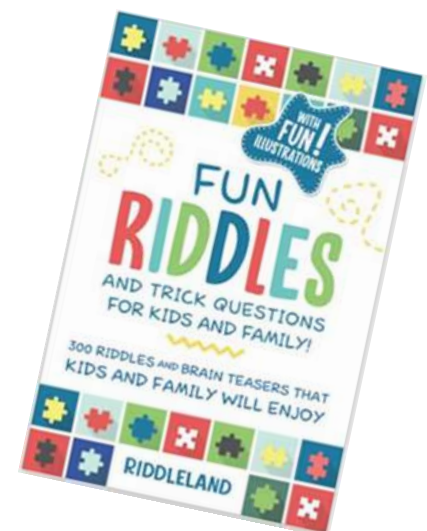
FOR GIFTED
STUDENTS

Encourage gifted students to participate in extracurricular activities that involve academic skills. Because gifted students are often natural leaders, it is important to invite them to use their talents and abilities in beneficial manners.

CHECK IT OUT!



This book is filled with fun riddles and trick questions for kids and family. There are 300 riddles and brain teasers that kids and family will enjoy. Riddles are ancient...and have been creating brilliant thinkers for thousands of years. Who's ready for some clever amusement?



amazon.com/Riddles-Trick-Questions-Kids-Family



Recognizing Gifted Students: A Practical Guide for Teachers

by Sandra Manning

By watching for certain behaviors and characteristics, teachers in the general education classroom can identify and better understand exceptional students.

[Read full article.](#)

More BHCS Headlines



Students Take on Engineering Challenges

Ben Hill Elementary School students in Mrs. Susan Spivey's gifted classes have been working on several engineering challenges. The students have created paper ball runs to investigate whose ping pong ball could take the longest to travel through a structure. The students were given 30 sheets of paper and then tasked with creating a run. Students were scored by the number of pieces of paper they used and the time the ball made the run. They also created structures using only paper and tape that would hold a full can of soda. The structures had to hold the can for 60 seconds without falling. The winning structure was one meter tall.



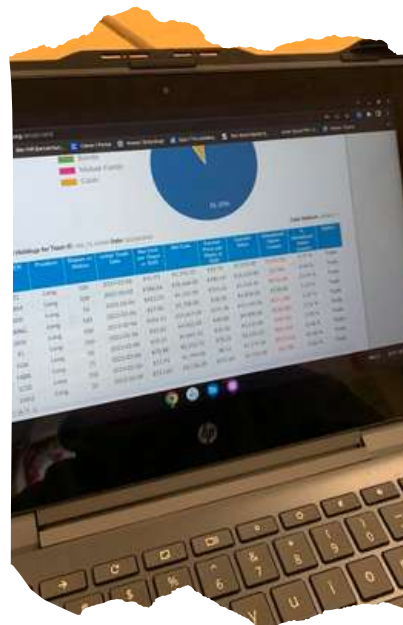
More BHCS Headlines



Investigating Electric Circuits

Ben Hill Elementary School students in Mrs. Susan Spivey's gifted classes have been learning about electric circuits. They have practiced making circuits using *Snap Circuits* kits. Students have been able to use hands-on practices to create actual working circuits using the knowledge they have learned.

These students have also been learning about economics and how the stock market works as they have been involved in the *Stock Market Game*. The students learned that in a matter of days, they can make or lose money. The students have online accounts where they check their earnings and buy and sell stocks they have researched.



elenco.com/snap-circuits-2/



stockmarketgame.org