

Celebrating 10 Years of Excellence



CYCLONE SPIRIT NEWSLETTER

**October & November
2016**

Important Dates:

- October 7 - Parent/Teacher Conferences**
- October 13 - Board of Directors Meeting**
- November 8 - Election Day
(school open, polling place)**
- November 18 - Noon dismissal**
- December 9 - Students vs Faculty Basketball**
- December 16 - Noon dismissal**



Cumberland Academy
of GEORGIA

"An Exceptional School for Exceptional Students"

CYCLONE SPIRIT

**From the
Headmaster -
Debbi**



Isn't it interesting how many of the phrases we use in the business world come from sports?

For example, "in over our heads, upside down, can't keep our head above water and we need to just ride this out"? As our Cumberland Adventure Seekers learned on a recent trip to North Carolina, these terms are used in whitewater rafting.

Not all lessons we teach are in a classroom. Every year we have students who never dreamed they would try whitewater rafting. Some of our kids were sure they were not up for this kind of "dangerous adventure" but, along with our chaperones and the great guides from Georgia State Outdoor Recreation, they proved to themselves they could do it! Not only did all rafters make it down the river, but they actually had fun. One student said it was the best day of his life! I know just how he feels. I have that same emotion most days when we lock up and go home.

I'm so grateful to you all!

**From the
Principal -
Don Sasso**



The long, hot summer of 2016 has drawn to a close and we have finally welcomed some cooler autumnal temperatures to Atlanta. We are well into our school year and our students have settled into their routines nicely.

You may have noticed the garden boxes on the east side of our front entrance to the school. Cumberland has partnered with the Captain Planet Foundation on this garden project. We will be growing herbs and vegetables and our students will be helping with the gardening under the direction of science teacher, Mr. Allpere. Also, the Georgia State University BioBus recently visited Cumberland and GSU science students delivered a presentation to middle and high school students on microbes in and on our bodies and the environment. So it has been a notable time for science at Cumberland as we collaborated with community resources.

Wishing you a Happy Halloween and a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!

From Your Teachers

**Pioneer
Coordinator -
Mrs. Morgan**



Literacy: We have been reading Fantasy stories while learning about cause and effect. Students are discovering values in stories and how we can learn from them. We have almost completed the creation of our own fantasy story. They will be available for you to see very soon!

Math: We are beginning to wrap up our first unit on place value and rounding. We will be getting ready to begin our next unit on multiplication and division.

Science: Students will be researching the effects of climate and people on our ecosystem. We will be performing a plant water filtration experiment to see how eliminating plants and trees effects the purification of our drinking water. Exciting!

Social Studies: We are beginning our unit on Native Americans in North America. Your child will explore the cultures of the Native Americans in the Arctic (Inuit), Northwest (Kwakiutl), Plateau (Nez Perce), Southwest (Hopi), Plains (Pawnee), and Southeast (Seminole).



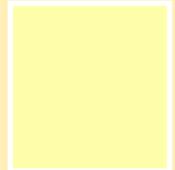
**Navigator
Coordinator -
Mrs. Mensing**



From writing essays with Mrs. A to learning operations and scientific notation or algebraic equations with Mrs. Mensing, our Navigators (middle schoolers to the outside world!) have been busy. Mrs. A is working with students on a firm writing foundation while Mrs. Bishop has been introducing students to literature, which the students find fascinating. She holds interesting discussions on character and plot development and helps students learn the art of literature dissection. Mrs. Bishop had students so enthralled with a novel, they begged for homework over the weekend so they could finish the book!

Mr. Allpere has been engaging students by creating ecosystems, studying rocks and minerals and understanding the very basic part of life, the cell. Students have hands on activities which creates a Science world of wonder! In addition to a science understanding of the world, students in Mrs. Liang's Geography classes have been learning about South America and will create videos which will have their unique perspective. Parents, not to worry, these videos will be shared with you! Mrs. Liang will also continue to expand students understanding of the Georgia History which is a part of the Common Core.

Navigator parents, your students have lots of exciting days planned for them in October and November!



From Your Teachers

**Explorer
Coordinator -
Ms. Zierten**



To celebrate our community building activity we joined together to create a beautiful display to highlight and share our Explorer Expectation Agreement and created Respect Sticks pictured to the left.

In addition to community and team building, students have been working on achieving Digital Citizenship as part of a school initiative. This education will help students throughout their career at Cumberland.

Students will be using all their amazing technology skills to create and present a project in their Social Studies class. Students will be creating a slideshow of China utilizing their studies of the country. Then students will develop and enhance their presentation skills. Also to come....a Revolutionary War project!

Physics classes are in full swing. Mr. Downs will add to the curriculum by interjecting educational opportunities such as a Biography project. Students will begin work on a Biography of a physicist that is relevant to the current material studied. Also enhancing the current study material, Environmental Science classes will continue to explore the Sandy Springs community for real world examples on their lessons. This will be a wonderful way for students to experience information studied in class.

Look to Spanish for some really cool cross cultural projects. Done entirely in class, students will choose a country and study the art, history, and food of the country. More amazing to come from our high schoolers!



**Career Prep -
Mr. Sentell**



**Mr. Sentell's Saturday Series
group in Columbus, GA**

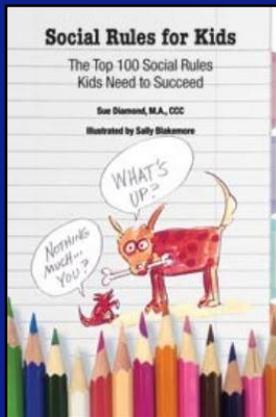
The Career Prep Program at Cumberland has become a significant opportunity for a group of our high school students to learn in the classroom, as well as learn while working at a business and while serving in the community. Students have been working weekly at The Gap and Publix and have learned job skills which can be carried to many other employers. Students work under store supervision and must meet high expectations of achievement from the store managers and Cumberland teachers.

This year we've established a relationship with our next door neighbor, Insignia Assisted Living. The students have enjoyed assisting with games and helping residents with their daily activities. Cumberland students have learned empathy, patience, and they practice conversational skills with a different generation.



From Your Teachers

Counselor's Corner



It's Fall Y'All! The time of year for cooler temperatures, beautiful colors and pumpkin everything is here. It's also the time when our students start settling into rhythm of the school year, learning more every day about how to manage their academic and social worlds. Our Cumberland teachers and counselors are busy helping students improve their social interactions and building confidence. Our faculty and staff are busy inside and out of the classroom providing continuous lessons on personal space, greetings and "joining in" conversations. If your family is in need of a go to resource, *Social Rules for Kids*, by Susan Diamond, MA, CCC is an awarding winning guidebook that highlights with humor the *Top 100 Social Rules Kids Need to Succeed*. Written by a speech-language pathologist, it reads in clear language that parent's as well as student's can understand.

Fall is a great time to gather the family and head outdoors for some exercise. Encourage your student to help rake the falling leaves in your yard or in an elderly neighbor's yard. Don't forget to suggest jumping into that big pile of raked leaves as a bonus! Head out to an apple orchard, a pumpkin patch or a corn maze for some weekend fun. If carving pumpkins are not your thing, grab some paint or a glue gun and decorate one! Create a nature scavenger hunt or pack a picnic to enjoy these crisp sunny days. Don't forget to check out the many fall festivals or local college football games. Whatever your idea of fall family fun, remember that building relationships and seizing quality moments of connection increases the well being of everyone.

Our students have been busy identifying their "Strengths" in September and will be exploring the theme of "Optimism" in October and "Gratitude" in November. Please feel free to email, call or schedule a meeting if you have any questions or concerns.

Warm regards from your Cumberland Counseling Team,

Ms. Val, Ms. Yvon, Ms. Belinda, Ms. Anna, Ms. Melissa,
Ms. Carla, Ms. Christy. and Dr. Kelli



There's More...

Barks from Haley



***Captain Planet Foundation* is amazing!** Cumberland students spent a morning digging and playing in the dirt while getting the garden boxes prepped and ready for planting seeds. Mr. Allpere led the project and even added a sensory garden especially for our students. Haley tried to bury a bone—we will find a better place for her!

Stay tuned for our Cumberland garden to start growing. Students will learn eco friendly gardening as well as nutritionally sound practices. Your child may actually like vegetables!

Thank you so much to the ***Lacy Foundation*** for the generous contribution to the Capital Campaign, Our Home Their Future.

The Cyclone Parent organization is off to a great start! Our teachers and staff were rewarded with a wonderful Wednesday Luncheon. Thank you so much!



Technology Jennifer Liang



"I CAN'T do it. It's too...Oh wait! I DID IT!"

Sounds like one of the kids right? Maybe even yours. Or it's me, when I was first approached about teaching Computer Science to the Pioneers and Navigators. Happily for our students, I decided to give it a try. I'm so glad I did.

This is a great class for all of our students - even those who will not be pursuing Computer Science as a career. Computer Science requires many skills beyond simple coding, making it a valuable course for any student. This course requires you to think logically and sequentially about a problem. It also requires you to work collaboratively with a team and to persevere, skills that many of our students need to practice.



Students pictured to the left made a binary bracelet in Computer Science. What a cool school!



Sports, After School & More!

Cross Country -

What a season! As some of our students were new to running, they achieved quite a success. Some of our runners improved their times by up to three minutes! Quite an impressive feat! The high school runners had a long and tough 5K course to tackle, but with practice and determination, they persevered.

The name of the game was also stamina and perseverance for all of the middle schoolers as well. Students used the practice of striding and applied it to the course. Everyone has done a fantastic job!

We look forward to our last meet in mid October and using our new fitness in future sports this fall and winter!



Basketball -

It's here! Basketball season is now. Students can still sign up to be a part of the team. This will be great training for the annual students vs faculty basketball game in December.



Give me a "C"for Cumberland Cheer! Our cheer program has a wonderful new coach, Mrs. Anna! Cumberland cheerleaders have begun practices for the first game this fall. Parents come watch the fun!

Our cheer team also acts as a representative of our school. This fall our cheerleaders will welcome special visitors such as our Board of Directors. What a great group of girls they are!

Cumberland developed a program called the Brown Bag Series, which is designed to help educate our families by bringing in speakers relevant to our student population. At the end of September, we were happy to host Mr. Greg Rogers, an attorney who specializes in issues relating to social security and special needs planning. Mr. Rogers presented very helpful information on the process, hearings and navigating the often confusing ropes of accessing government programs.

Thank you for your time and very helpful insight, Mr. Rogers!

The next Brown Bag will be October 28 from 1-2. See you there!



Make An Impact....



Now is the time to complete your GOAL Scholarship Tax Credit form for 2017!

Remember: this is a redirection of your state taxes to scholarships. Individuals can apply for \$1,000, married couples can apply for \$2,500, and business owners can contribute up to \$10,000. Please go

to www.goalscholarship.org and complete the Paperless Process. Remember to list Cumberland Academy of Georgia as your school. It's fast and easy! Please contact Valerie Laura if you have any other questions - valerie.laura@cumberlandacademy.org

We are grateful to the following GOAL participants: (still time for more!)

Olivia Beauchain
Brad & Cecilia Bercher
Elbridge & Julie Bills
Tony & Terri Brooks
James & Allison Burgess
James & Madeline Burgess
John & Julia Carico
Joseph & Laura Ciucci
William & Jeanne Cook
Howard & Sally Jetmundsen
Michael & Valerie Laura
David & Florence Mathis
Claudius & Tania Matos
Henry & Jewell Meyer

Joseph & Bineetha Miller
Matthew & Doris Mittelstedt
Steve & Rosalinda Rayman
Shannon Ross
Donald & Janice Sasso
Matthew & Debbi Scarborough
Michael & Vickie Smith
Frank Thomas
Stephen & Laura Tribou
David & Meggy Minqila White
Robert & Donna Winchester

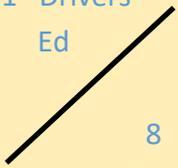


650-A Mt. Vernon Hwy NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30328

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OCTOBER 2016

CUMBERLAND ACADEMY OF GEORGIA

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3 EDP until 4:30 Cross Country until 4:30 Rosh Hashanah	4 EDP until 4:30 Cross Country until 4:30 Rosh Hashanah	5 EDP until 4:30 Basketball Combine until 4:30	6 Girl Talk 8:00-8:30 EDP until 4:30 Cheer until 4:30	7 Fall Break No School Parent/Teacher Conferences	1 Drivers' Ed  8 No Drivers' Ed
9	10 No School	11 No School	12 EDP until 4:30 Basketball Combine -4:30 Yom Kippur	13 Girl Talk 8:00-8:30 EDP until 4:30 Screen Free Game Club until 4:30 Cheer until 4:30	14 Casual Dress Cumberland Café Tae Kwon Do Bowling	15 Drivers' Ed
16	17 EDP until 4:30 HS Basketball Practice until 4:30	18 EDP until 4:30 Combined MS/HS Basketball	19 EDP until 4:30 MS Basketball Practice until 4:30	20 Girl Talk 8:00-8:30 EDP until 4:30 Cheer until 4:30	21 Spirit Wear Cumberland Café Tae Kwon Do Bowling	22 Drivers' Ed
23	24 EDP until 4:30 HS Basketball Practice until 4:30	25 EDP until 4:30 Combined MS/HS Basketball	26 EDP until 4:30 MS Basketball Practice until 4:30	27 Girl Talk EDP until 4:30 Screen Free Game Club Cheer -4:30	28 Casual Dress Cumberland Café Tae Kwon Do Bowling	29 Saturday Series Destination TBD Drivers' Ed
30	31 Halloween No after school activities today.					

MS = Middle School HS = High School BB = Basketball

NOVEMBER 2016

CUMBERLAND ACADEMY OF GEORGIA

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 EDP until 4:30 Combined MS/HS Basketball	2 EDP until 4:30 MS BB Game @ Waldorf at 4	3 Girl Talk 8:00-8:30 EDP until 4:30 Cheer until 4:30	4 Spirit Wear Cumberland Café Tae Kwon Do Bowling	5 Drivers' Ed
6 DAY-LIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS	7 EDP until 4:30 HS Basketball Practice until 4:30	8 ELECTION DAY EDP until 4:30 Combined MS/HS Basketball	9 EDP until 4:30 MS BB Game @ AASD at 4	10 Girl Talk EDP until 4:30 Cheer Screen Free Game Club	11 Casual Dress Cumberland Café Tae Kwon Do Bowling	12 Drivers' Ed Saturday Series
13	14 EDP until 4:30 HS Basketball Practice until 4:30	15 EDP until 4:30 Combined MS/HS Basketball	16 EDP until 4:30 MS BB Game @ Cottage at 3:30 HS BB Game @ at 4:45	17 Girl Talk EDP until 4:30 Cheer until 4:30 MS BB Game vs. Swift @ home at 4	18 Spirit Wear Noon Dismissal No lunch No after school activities	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
T H A N K S G I V I N G			B R E A K			
27	28 EDP until 4:30 HS Basketball Practice until 4:30	29 EDP until 4:30 Combined MS/HS Basketball Practice	30 EDP until 4:30 MS Basketball Practice until 4:30			

MS = Middle School HS = High School BB = Basketball