

CYCLONE SPIRIT NEWSLETTER



OCT/NOV 2017 IMPORTANT DATES

- 10/3- ACT Testing
- 10/5- FOX Sports Volunteer Day
- 11/7- Election Day
- 11/17- Noon Dismissal
- 11/20-24- Thanksgiving Break
- 11/28- GA Gives Day



LETTER FROM THE HEADMASTER Debbi Scarborough

We almost got eclipsed by the eclipse. At nearly the last moment we realized the special glasses we had purchased online were not authentic. Like many others across the country we had been duped. Immediately our staff and friends of Cumberland began to beat the bushes to find replacements. Our friend, Mike Petchenik at WSB-TV tweeted out our dilemma to his many followers. Among them was some sweet soul at Fulton Schools who gave us a share of theirs and our neighbors Mount Vernon School gave us enough so all our students could safely watch this spectacular event. Our Science teachers had prepared a lesson for our kids, but the best lesson of the day was the value of sharing with those in need.

Our annual rafting trip is met with some hesitancy by many of our kids. Once on the river, students always really get into the experience and thoroughly enjoy them-

selves. It's a challenge: it requires teamwork, one must be focused, and it's just scary enough to feel a sense of accomplishment.

We are very proud of some of our students who have stepped up to welcome and introduce themselves to visitors at Cumberland. A sincere welcome from one of our students and a firm handshake makes a great impression. This experience provides an opportunity to practice a habit that can enhance their lives.

I continue to find inspiration by just walking our halls. I peek into rooms where an instructor is on the floor with four enthralled students. I pass a room filled with kids who are discussing an issue with each other in reasonable tones and with humor. The teacher is observing with a smile. I'm inspired. I hope you are as well.

Debbi Scarborough

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



DOUG LONG
Principal

“When good things happen to good kids, we’ve done our job and it makes it all worth it!” -Mike Petchenik, Reporter, WSB-TV

Fall is upon us with changing leaves and cooler temperatures. Fall for Cumberland Academy of Georgia means time to get to work. Teaching and learning are evident as I walk into classrooms everyday. Our teachers are working hard to help the students understand the concepts that are being presented. The students are also working hard to learn the information.

Our counselors, and counseling interns, are assisting the students who may be anxious or stressed by the work. They provide a huge service in supporting the students to help them regulate them-

selves so that they can be successful. We are so fortunate to have such caring and nurturing people on our staff who challenge our students, but understand that they may need a little TLC to get through the day.

Visitors are amazed as they tour the school. They feel the commitment of the staff and the heart of the students. We’re working hard everyday and we always hold our doors open to visitors. The community is wrapped around Cumberland and supports your children in many ways.

Just ask Mike Petchenik from WSB-TV.



FROM YOUR TEACHERS

PIONEER COORDINATOR

Mrs. Morgan

We have a new student to welcome to our Pioneer group, Beatrice. She has been such a joy and great addition to the Pioneer classroom.

The Pioneers have had a great start to the Year. In Mrs. A.'s literature classes, we are working on dioramas as a culminating activity for selections like "Superfudge", "Island of the Blue Dolphin" and "Two Tickets to Freedom". Some students have been learning persuasive writing while reading various short stories for fluency and comprehension.

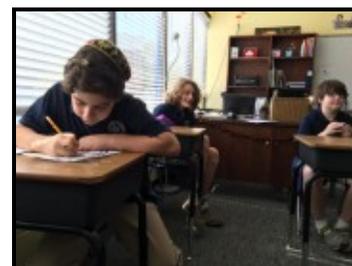
In our Social Studies classes, students have been engaged in learning about the Civil War.

While Math may be easier for some and more difficult for others, teachers are building on each student's

math skills.

Pioneers have Science Class. We finished up last week learning about star patterns and constellations, where we learned about several well-known constellations, as well as created our own constellations and myths behind them. We are currently learning about climate vs. weather and working on building our vocabulary.

The Pioneers are looking forward to their visits to Hillcrest Farms and Fernbank Museum of Natural History. We also have some community skills trips planned for this Fall. It's definitely the start of a great year!



NAVIGATOR COORDINATOR

Mrs. Mensing

It has been an *extraordinary* start to the Navigator school year. Our middle school students are growing accustomed to their new classes and making new friends. October will fly with academic field trips and Halloween. Most 6th and 7th graders will explore Arabia Mountain to reinforce Geography and Science lessons and some will venture to Oakland Cemetery for a bit of Georgia History. Please watch for field trip permission slips.

Europe will continue to be the focus in Mrs. Liang's Geography classes. Students are learning about the European Union and Brexit and will tackle Russia in a few weeks while writing classes are developing editorial skills and increasing vocabulary. Literature classes are using short stories and novels to practice comprehension and retelling skills. Students enrolled in Georgia Studies are learning how Georgia became a colony and James Oglethorpe's role in Georgia's history. Math classes are working on mysteries as well by learning how to solve for x in a variety of equations. Other students are working on ra-

tios and proportional relationships. Practicing and mastering integer rules will continue to be a focus for students, as well.

Starting a new school year can be scary and stressful.

The Navigator teachers are so very proud of all of our students. Teachers are encouraging compassion and flexibility each day. Students are learning to recognize their strengths and to advocate for help when needed. And that is an *extraordinary* thing to see in the classroom.



FROM YOUR TEACHERS

EXPLORER COORDINATOR

Ms. Zierten

If you can teach a subject, you know the subject well. Our Explorer students used that theory while teaching the younger students at Cumberland some very important lessons about Cyber Bullying. The Explorers worked in teams along with Ms. Zierten to share important information on prevention and protection from cyberbullying. Utilizing the Common Sense Curriculum, the Explorer Student “teachers” lead a meaningful discussion with groups of students.

The new World Geography Curriculum is being taught to our high school students. This course provides an analytical view of how geographic factors influence human behavior on the earth. The students will examine how the physical and cultural geographic factors contribute to

varying levels of cooperation within major world regions. Juniors and Seniors traveled to visit Georgia State University’s Alpharetta Campus for a college tour. College applications, university curriculum and student life were included in the tour led by GSU students. This tour is part of the progression toward the next step for Cumberland high school students. Students will continue to pursue college tours to determine their individual progression after high school.

All Cumberland Explorers took the MAP tests this fall. These tests are used to monitor students learning in the classroom and will be combined with spring tests for assessments.

CAREER PREP

Mrs. McCracken

New to Career Prep this year is the Life Centered Education Curriculum. Along with our academics and internships the LCE curriculum incorporates life skills. We have started lessons on goal setting and time management. The LCE lessons are created to help transition students into the workplace and young adulthood. Currently we are transferring the lessons we learn in class to our internships at Yardhouse and Publix.

The Career Prep class also volunteered with the Variety of Georgia golf tournament. Students assisted with the fundraising and golfing of Variety, a donating partner of Cumberland.

Come and get it! The Cumberland Café is open for busi-



ness every other Friday. Parents, send your child to school with a few dollars for breakfast at Cumberland. Career Prep students run and manage the Café. It’s a great business!



FROM YOUR TEACHERS

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Val Schwan

Our counselors have been busy working with your students exploring ways to use their personal **strengths** both at school and in their community. As the leaves fall, please consider encouraging your student to rake a pile of leaves for your yard or for someone else's, instilling compassion or empathy for someone who might not be physically able to do so.

As we move through the fall season our counseling themes will be **"Inspired"** in October and **"Gratitude"** in November. Many of us were **inspired** at Cumberland's 2017 Graduation ceremony when Ron Hunter, head basketball coach at Georgia State, talked about his shoe drive dedicated to providing shoes for children in Atlanta and all over the world.

This fall, one Cumberland student demonstrated his personal strength by starting a clothing drive for hurricane victims. He spoke with staff about reaching out to others who need help. Parents and students donated items which were delivered to Texas. It's beautiful to see a student speak up and assist others in our world.

To continue the momentum of change and reinforce our counseling themes, let's support Coach Hunter and donate new tennis shoes for those children less fortunate. There will be containers in our lobby for your contributions. Sending **gratitude** to all of our families as together we continue to teach our children to think of others.



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Mihkel Allpere, Experiential Learning Coordinator

WHATS IN A FISH EGG?

It may be caviar to you but to the Cumberland students, the arrival of several thousand trout eggs is the signal of an awesome Science lesson. Our student Biologists will receive amazing lessons in life-cycle and conservation and be able to observe the process of fish hatching right at Cumberland!

Life Science, as well as Biology classes, have been taking advantage of our fleet of microscopes and discovering the world at a cellular level. Earth science even got to use our binocular dissecting microscopes to inspect the crystal structures of minerals in igneous rocks!

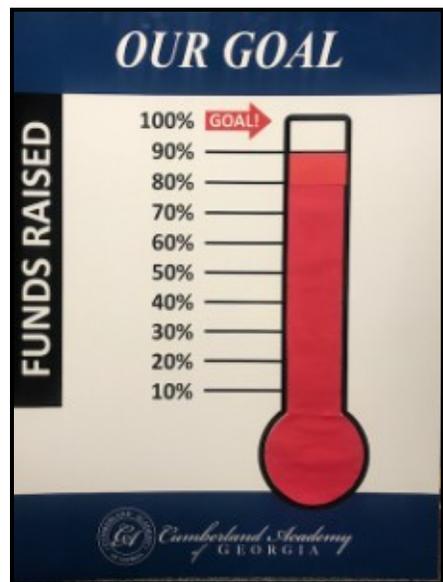
The Science Department, including high school Chemistry and Physics classes, is having fun with all kinds of exciting experiments and experiences for our students. One such experiment will be for the Pioneer students who will be making sensory balls. Students can then use their "experiment" as a fidget. As the year progresses, the Science teachers are able to open up many more opportunities to make observations in the natural world, including observing the hatching of trout eggs.



THERE'S MORE...

BARKS FROM HALEY

- We are almost done! The Cumberland *Capital Campaign* is in the final stage of completion. Thank you to the families who have made an extra special donation to help each and every student in the school. And, we need you to help us achieve our goal. Can you help in some way?
- Congratulations to the first college acceptance of the year. This achievement goes to Shale Arora. Stay tuned for more good news from our high school group.
- Well done middle school student, John Henry Claeys, on placing in the first Cross Country meet! Run on!



SPORTS & SCHOOL CLUBS

Cheer? Cross Country? Game Club? You bet!



Cumberland cross country has a few more meets, and then the runners can take a rest for the season. The awards ceremony will be wrapped up with all other sports and will occur at the end of the school year.

Basketball begins in mid October and is shaping up to be the best season yet. Coach C is anticipating the most Cumberland students ever to play basketball. And, while dribbling the ball down the court the best supporters will be the Cumberland cheer team! Listen for some great team spirit. Go Cyclones!

Bowling has continued to be a Cumberland fav and not just for the really cool bowling shirts (although there is a buzz among the students about that).

To date, the Cumberland highest game score boy is JP Whelen and highest game score girl is Sophia Larrier. Well done bowlers!

OCTOBER 2017

Cumberland Academy of Georgia

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| 1 | 2 EDP Cross Country until 4:30 | 3 EDP Cross Country until 4:30 | 4 EDP Cheer until 4:30 | 5 Pizza provided EDP Cross Country Meet Art Club until 4:30 | 6 Parent/Teacher Conferences – No School | 7 |
| 8 | 9 Fall Break No School | 10 Fall Break No School | 11 Girl Talk 8-8:30 EDP Cheer until 4:30 Cross Country Meet (HS Only) | 12 Pizza provided EDP Screen Free Game Club until 4:30 Art Club until 4:30 | 13 Casual Dress Cumberland Café Lunch provided Bowling Tae Kwon Do | 14 Saturday Series to Warner Robins Museum of Aviation Driver's Ed Begins |
| 15 | 16 EDP HS Basketball Practice | 17 EDP MS/HS Combined Basketball Practice | 18 EDP Cheer until 4:30 MS Basketball Practice | 19 Pizza Provided EDP Art Club until 4:30 | 20 Spirit Wear No Café Lunch Provided Bowling Tae Kwon Do | 21 |
| 22 | 23 EDP HS Basketball Practice | 24 EDP MS/HS Combined Basketball Practice Art Club until 4:30 | 25 Girl Talk 8-8:30 EDP Cheer until 4:30 | 26 Pizza Provided EDP Screen Free Game Club until 4:30 Art Club until 4:30 | 27 Casual Dress Cumberland Café Lunch Provided Bowling Tae Kwon Do | 28 |
| 29 | 30 EDP HS Basketball Practice | 31 EDP MS/HS Combined Basketball Practice Art Club until 4:30 | | | | |

MAKE AN IMPACT



If you pay Georgia State taxes, you can have a profound impact on Cumberland.

Sign up to re-direct your taxes to the Georgia Goal Scholarship Program. It will cost you only about 30 seconds of time.

Need help?

Contact Valerie Laura or Jeff Twomley at 404-835-9000.

Thank you to the Cumberland GOAL supporters.....Arora, Beauchain, Brooks, Burgess, Bushey, Carico, Collins, Cook, Davis, Dudley, Hudson, Hughes, Jetmundsen, Laura, Lee, Liu, Long, Mathis, Matos, Mensing, Meyer, Mittelstedt, Morgan, Roland, Scarborough, Schwan, Smith, Tribou, Twomley, & Wright



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Label for sending in the mail

Cumberland Academy of Georgia specializes in the needs of children with high functioning Autism, Asperger's, ADD, ADHD and other learning differences. The mission of the academy is to provide a safe, supportive, educational environment in partnership with faculty, staff, students and parents. The Cumberland family embraces the uniqueness of every child by challenging and inspiring them to reach their full potential. Our academic and social curriculum encourages the development of life skills essential in becoming self-sufficient adults.