

# CYCLONE SPIRIT NEWSLETTER



## Oct/Nov 2018 IMPORTANT DATES

10/14—Device Free  
Dinner Week  
10/16—ACT Testing  
10/30—College &  
Career Fair  
11/16—Noon Dismissal  
11/27—Georgia Gives/  
Giving Tuesday



## LETTER FROM THE HEADMASTER Debbi Scarborough

It takes more than a hurricane to keep students from their annual rafting trip down the Nantahala. Due to the weather, we had to change our annual trip, but students still were able to enjoy and experience this Cumberland tradition.

We call it a party but it's so much more. Thank you to our wonderful parent, Aura C, for hosting this annual event for parents. This party is such a great way to meet other families in our school community.

It took a Judge, and wow, did he have a lot of great things to say about GOAL. We are grateful to Judge Jackson for his eloquent discussion with parents about GOAL. In his words, "why would anyone not

sign up?" We agree! This program is a way for you to choose where you direct your state taxes. Please make sure you request Cumberland when you sign up on the website. We can help with any questions!

I would like to thank each and every parent, board member and staff member that responded to our survey. The growth in the school has been amazing this year and we want to ensure that Cumberland remains a dynamic school that helps students become their best self. Happy fall to you.

*Debbi Scarborough*

# FROM THE PRINCIPAL



**DOUG LONG**  
Principal

*“Best year so far for my child. Epic year!”  
—a Cumberland parent, after a few weeks at school*

What’s a “MAP”? For some of us it’s a step by step process of getting to a new place. For others, a MAP is a list of places to go and see. At Cumberland, it’s that and more. We test our students each fall and spring to get information on the breadth and depth of academics, called MAP testing. We also use an academic map to give direction to our high school students for their graduation requirements and their next steps to college or a career.

This fall, we asked family, staff and board members to fill out a survey to assist with the strategic plan or map of the next few years of the school in terms of areas of growth, facility changes, etc. Many parents asked for even more support with college and career direction for students. So, we are launching a more in-depth program with more staff and more focus on this most important map for

students. Students and parents will see more corporate partners, more employment placing for our high school students and more career development for students heading into the workforce. Colleges and universities watch out. Cumberland students will be ready for you. Parents are invited to the first event: A college and career fair October 30th at 1:30.

Each year at Cumberland we get more effective and more efficient at our work with the students. We hope you participated in curriculum night. This evening was designed to educate parents on the curriculum in the classroom and the effective teaching methods of each teacher. We hope this will serve as your “map” for their education this year, and we hope this is your family’s best year ever.





# FROM YOUR TEACHERS

## PIONEER, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Ms. Carmon

The Pioneers enjoyed a great trip to Jason's Deli when the original rafting date was changed. When students go to lunch, it's a fun event with a social skills focus. Students are instructed on manners and how to order appropriately in a restaurant. We also got to enjoy our first ride in the new bus! We are tentatively planning an October trip to a pumpkin patch. There we will learn about the science of the life cycle of a pumpkin in addition to the operations of a farm. Looking ahead we have scheduled a

visit to Stone Mountain for their Native American Pow Wow/Festival. This will tie into a unit we study on Native Americans.

The Social Studies classes have explored colonial life and the Revolutionary War. Students were very excited to draw pictures of the information learned in this unit .



*Pioneer picture depicting Revolutionary War.*

## NAVIGATOR, MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mrs. Mensing

We've had an outstanding start to the new school year! The Navigators collectively are finishing up our first novels with Mrs. Bishop, tackling science vocabulary with Mr Allpere, practicing our map skills with Mrs. Liang, learning more about our state with Mrs. Lipshutz and Ms. Irvin and are broadening our math horizons with Mrs. Mensing.

This fall students will complete research and write a script with their peers celebrating famous people in history. Our presentations won't be until December, but we know it will be an entertaining learning experience for all. Please plan to attend!

Our group will celebrate Halloween with just the right amount of junk food and goodies! Then the next day our 6th and 7th graders will enjoy beautiful scenery and fresh air at Arabia Mountain Nature Preserve. This active field trip is always a hit with the kids the day after Halloween.

If you have not scheduled a teacher/parent conference and would like one, please contact Mrs. Mensing via email. We will continue conferences throughout October!

# FROM YOUR TEACHERS

## EXPLORER, HIGH SCHOOL Mr. Downs

With a wide range of topics on their plates, the students have been feasting on new knowledge cooked up by the staff. To start, Mr. McElderry's Economics class is writing a paper on the movie "The Founder" which details the rise of McDonald's in the restaurant industry. Hopefully these students are paying attention to Mr. Fineman's Health course on teen health and fitness. In promoting a life of overall health, don't expect any "research" visits to Mickey D's from that group!

Ms. Ross has her American Literature class engaged in the analysis of Native American poems and prayers. The students created a project using themes of peace, harmony and reverence for na-

## CAREER PREP Mrs. Fineman

Career Prep class goes out weekly for provisions for the kitchen, as well as hands-on dining room work at our neighbor Insignia of Sandy Springs. We have developed our business, the Cumberland Café, and sell goods every other Friday. Our math and reading lessons are integrated in all that we do.

Life Skills has focused on work/career; students have done a simulated business model (their own small business -- a bike shop); have created a website for the business; applied for jobs at Target; investigated top 10 colleges and universities. We hope to take in a college lecture before the end of the semester. Stay tuned!

Culinary Arts has run the gamut, as well. We started by learning about basic cooking equipment and safety in our kitchen then moved forward with many recipes. Each student chose a recipe and does a food demo every other week; classmates write a food critique following the demo as part of their weekly assignments. A highlight of the semester was inviting "Chef Jeff" from Chick-fil-A who came and demonstrated cooking methods. Bon appétit!



*\*\*Upcoming College & Career Fair on  
October 30th at 1:30 p.m.\*\**

ture.

American History class is learning about the emergence of colonial ideas during the 18<sup>th</sup> century that fueled the revolution, while on the flip side World History has recently been learning of the unification of China.

While math has its obvious numerical themes, students did have occasion to compose poetry in Algebra 1 during a review of PEMDAS. Purple Elephants Make Donuts After School became Cumberland's new mnemonic for order of operations. Explorers are working hard in their studies and teachers are pleased with the results.



# FROM YOUR TEACHERS

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

**Val Schwan,  
Director of Counseling**

During September our Cumberland family found many ways to weave KINDNESS into our school days. The month of kindness was inspired by the following:

- Jacey Smith invited us to spread kindness by supporting a t-shirt campaign started by a girl with autism, <https://bekindtoeveryone.com/>
- Explorer student Emma Swann warmly welcomed new student Jamerson Gaddy and guided him around campus on his first day.
- Pioneer student Brody Taylor was observed "consistently going the extra mile to aid students having a hard day."
- Navigator student Brianne Milton was noted as consistently "helping another student acclimate to a new routine and assignments."
- Pioneer Aaron Flores showed kindness by teaching another student how to shoot a basketball.
- Explorer Lauren Collins comforted a student on a MARTA field trip and also played the piano for the elderly next door at Insignia.
- Explorer helpers that consistently offer to clean up the gym after lunch: Aidan Ciucci., Lane Sali , Sam Drobos, Luke Hensel and Ryan Petersen

To the many students and staff that support each other with KINDNESS every day ~ thank you! Our Counseling theme for October is INSPIRATION and for November, GRATITUDE.

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

**Jennifer Robinson,  
Science Teacher**

What's a student to do with a 2 liter plastic bottle, some fish and a few plants? If you are lucky enough to be in Mrs. Robinson's Biology class, you would get to create your own ecosystem! Students studied various ecosystems then headed to the lab to create an aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem simulation using two 2- Liter bottles. Students then explored the cycling of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, and phosphorous through biotic and abiotic components of an ecosystem.

Then students connected the two bottles so that the nutrients can cycle and life of the plant, cricket, snail, gold fish and can be sustained for a month-long period. Findings from the class experiment will be observed then reported in a lab write up.

Next up for the Science teachers will be the annual fish hatchery program. Stay tuned!



# THERE'S MORE...

## BARKS FROM LUCKY

Lacy Foundation, we are so grateful to you for your generous donation!



FOX Sports, y'all rock. Navigators had a ball (pun intended) at the Braves game. What a treat to ride in the FOX Sports bus. Thank you!

We are so enjoying our new bus. Thank you so much, Valery Voyles, for this gift!



## SPORTS & SCHOOL CLUBS

Grab your pom poms, Cheerleading and Spirit Club have started!



We definitely have school spirit thanks to two groups of students. Our cheerleaders have begun working on some new cheers and the spirit club has already added some spirit with a candy gram sale! More to come with these two groups of students.

Student athletes have to say goodbye to soccer and greet the basketball season. Several students experienced the joy of a victorious goal and some for the first time! Stay tuned for basketball news!



# October 2018

## Cumberland Academy of Georgia

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 EDP	2 EDP	3 Drama Club MS Soccer 3:15 p.m. Home vs Cottage EDP	4 High School Conferences- No HS classes, All others report  Cross Country Meet @ Mill Springs Game Club	5 Parent Conferences- NO School All Grades  No afterschool activities	6
7	8 Fall Break	9 Fall Break	10 Girl Talk  Drama Club Cross Country Championship EDP	11 Game Club  Art Club Resumes EDP	12 Cumberland Café Spirit Club Casual Dress Bowling Championship	13
14	15 Digital Citizenship Week Basketball Begins HS EDP	16 ACT Testing Basketball Practice MS/HS EDP	17 Girl Talk Drama Club Basketball Practice MS EDP	18 Senior Pictures & Retakes Art Club EDP	19 Spirit Club Spirit Wear Bowling	20
21	22 Basketball Practice HS EDP	23 Basketball Practice MS/HS EDP	24 Girl Talk Basketball Practice MS NO Drama Club EDP	25 Game Club Art Club EDP	26 Cumberland Café Spirit Club Casual Dress Bowling Brown Bag Event	27
28	29 Basketball Practice HS EDP	30 College & Career Fair Basketball Practice MS/HS EDP	31 Girl Talk Halloween No Afterschool Activities		**Pizza will be served free of charge on Thursdays and pasta or chicken fingers will be served free of charge on Fridays.**	

# OVER 50% TO...GOAL!!!

## Have you signed up for GOAL?

If you see the following people, please thank them: Burgess, Bushey, Collins, Dudley, Howle, Hudson, Long, Meyer, Smith, Tribou, Jackson, Stern, Lee, Matos, Chang, Meyer, Moore, Osbourne, Rankin, Schwan, Arora, Brooks, Drobles, Mathis, Mittlestedt, Wheeler, Voyles, Twomley, Carico, Downs, Jetmundsen, Mensing, Beauchain, Laura, Telford, Wright, Manfredonia, Carmon, Fineman, Thomas, Ainsworth, Allpere, Gaddy, & Levy.

Thank you!

Go to [www.goalscholarship.org](http://www.goalscholarship.org) and click on the "Sign Up Today" icon on the Home page. Be sure to list Cumberland Academy of Georgia as your school designated school. Remember contributing to the GOAL Scholarship Fund is just redirecting your state taxes to scholarships.



# ANNUAL GIVING

## Annual Giving

### Georgia Gives Day #Giving Tuesday

is coming on November 27. Please consider Cumberland if you are supporting this statewide giving program!



## Annual Fund

As we look around the school, we see all the amazing changes in thanks to so many who have given to Cumberland. This year, let's go big and bold with annual giving. Please consider Cumberland for your gifts.

*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.*