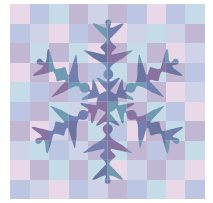


# Cumberland Academy of GEORGIA



**"Where Every Child Can Succeed"**

[www.cumberlandacademy.org](http://www.cumberlandacademy.org)

## PIONEER SPIRIT NEWSLETTER

### JANUARY 2010

Jan 4	Classes Resume
Jan 5	Blue Jean Ball Meeting 1:30pm
Jan 9	Happy B'day C.J.!
Jan 12	Pioneer Parent Meeting 2:00pm
Jan 18	<b>No School</b> Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Jan 23	Saturday School 9am-12pm
Jan 28	Happy B'day Amber!
Jan 29	Happy B'day Jeremy!

### FROM THE HEADMASTER

*Happy New Year to all!*

*December, just literally whooshed by – especially with our exciting student/faculty basketball game. What a treat for all of us to have Mr. Mutombo visit and play at our school (watch out next year, the faculty is practicing).*

*This is a time of year we all need to reflect at how fortunate we are, even in these trying times we need to look at all the positive changes. Enjoy your children and your families this season of joy, and I look forward to a GREAT 2010!!*

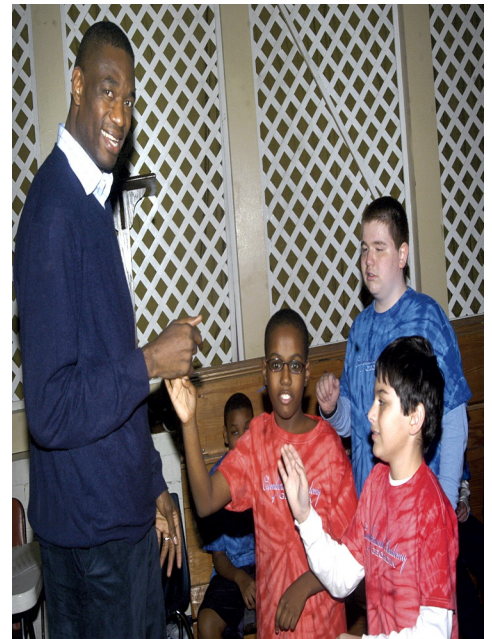
*Debbi Scarborough*

### Our Mission Statement

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 independent and self-sufficient adults.



*Mrs. Scarborough poses with  
Mr. Mutombo*



*Students receive high fives  
from Mr. Mutombo*

## IN THE NEWS

### Ms. Carney's Classroom...

It is pretty amazing to believe that the first half of the year is almost over! We have been so busy lately. Our literature class finished up 1984 by George Orwell. The students really enjoyed this novel and the discussions on government and Big Brother. It definitely led to many interesting conversations. My Spanish speakers are also doing extremely well and have really increased their vocabulary. This past week has been busy with finishing up any loose ends before the holidays, but we have managed to make it a lot of fun. We made goodies for our families that the students worked on very diligently. I hope everyone has a wonderful vacation and a happy new year.

Ms. Carney



### Ms. Johnson's Classroom...

Erupting volcanoes, blooming ecosystems, and toy motors. These describe what my Science classes have been working on the last few weeks. We have tested on all that we have learned this semester and look forward to more fun and exciting experiments next semester. Economics wrapped up with a final exam and we will begin Civics next semester. Students and teachers are looking forward to the winter break. Students have expressed their excitement about spending time with friends and family during the break. Have a safe and happy break and I look forward to seeing you all next year.

### Grammar Group...

What are you most looking forward to during winter break?

" I am looking forward to going to Colorado with my family and getting a PSP from Christmas. There is also a game that I want", says Logan. Grand said, "I am looking forward to spending time with my friends and getting a new video game." Jesse said, "Spending time with my dog and going ice skating with friends is what I am looking forward to.": Kelly had this to say, "I am looking forward to spending time with my family, having a feast at my house and playing with my cousins." Harrison is looking forward to going to Grandma's and showing her what he got for Christmas.



## IN THE NEWS

### Ms. Thurmond's Classroom...

We finished 2009 by reviewing skills, finishing novels, and reading short stories. The elementary group finished The Borrower's and did extremely well with the older, British vocabulary. I was so impressed. J Then we completed our memory writing and reviewed how to edit our written expression samples. We also took our mid-year assessments for reading via DORA (individual reports are in Friday folders). Purple literature groups read two short stories The Gift of the Magi and The Necklace. Both stories encouraged the students to discuss why we give gifts and what should we expect for gifts. This group also wrote a letter to their favorite author to express gratitude and appreciation.



Math classes are nearly  $\frac{1}{2}$  way through our books! The skills are getting more complicated (usually due to multi-steps). We will begin January by reviewing our essential skills. Look for suggestions for extra practice areas in 2010.

Finally we will begin new novels in all literature classes in 2010. Elementary (yellow) group will read Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis and Purple groups will read Found by Margaret Paterson Haddix. If you haven't already purchased your child's copy, please check out the book from the library or purchase for January 4<sup>th</sup>.

### Ms. Crisci's Classroom...

It has been an exciting semester in social studies! So far we have covered early explorers, pioneers, the first colonies, and the Revolutionary War. We are almost finished studying the Civil War, which is very exciting! As a class project, we made comic books explaining the battles, generals, and events. Please bring in your blue and gray t-shirts if you haven't done so already. We will start the production of our "movie" after the break! I am so proud of all my grammar students. Purple grammar continues to work hard on writing skills, and yellow grammar continues to make great progress on the mountain language walls. We have been playing grammar games such as consensus to review our parts of speech and practice our social skills. I am so proud of all my students and I hope everyone has a fabulous and safe break!! See you in 2010!

### Mr. Rocco's Classroom...

Look forward to the results of the Geometry Project/ Application in the repairing and preventing of damages to classroom furniture.



## PARENT HERO CORNER

### Thank you to.....

Kathy Fripps and Lori Cora for decorating the school for the Holiday season, to Isabella and Steve Woods for donating and installing a new light fixtures to the downstairs hallway, To all the parents who joined us for the end of the year Young Chefs Academy lunch. To Isabella Woods, Bill and Lauren Levy, Cathy Miller and Cynthia Abbott for securing donations for the Blue Jean Ball fundraiser.

## WISH LIST



- Paper Shredder
  - Color Printer
  - Foosball Table
  - Vacuum Cleaner
- LCD Projector
- Laminator (small or big)
- New or Used 10 gallon aquarium tanks
- New or Used Games (board games, chess, checkers etc)
  - Wii
  - DVD

### Blue Jean Ball Update

As we head into 2010, Bill and I would like to update you on the Blue Jeans

Ball taking place on February 27, 2010. The kick-off event at Hal's was a great success with approximately 150 attendees and a great amount of money raised! Plans for the ball are progressing nicely and we are looking forward to a really fun, successful evening. We have a wonderful band and an equally wonderful caterer. The Atlanta Art Institute will be helping with decorations and Grey Goose will supply a signature cocktail with the Grey Goose Girls serving those drinks.

As parents who attended the event last year we feel quite strongly about having 100% participation this year. Please provide you mailing lists to Kathy (you can use your holiday card list) so we can send out as many invitations as possible. Also, we need donations for the action. Again - we are all consumers....go to your Kroger, go to your Publix, go to your Whole Foods, go to your Goodyear Dealer, go to Macy's , go to your financial

advisor, your hair salon, your nail salon, your drycleaner, your favorite restaurant (you get the idea) and simply ask for a small donation or gift card. Please have each person/business making a donation fill out a form which you can get from the school or me. In today's environment, one hand literally does wash another, and no donation will be declined. Please contact me with any questions, suggestions, etc. Thanks and have a great holiday.

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