



Cumberland Academy
of GEORGIA



"Where Every Child Can Succeed"

www.cumberlandacademy.org

PIONEER SPIRIT NEWSLETTER

January 2011

Jan 3	Classes Resume
Jan 9	Hal's Restaurant Kick Off for Casino Night 6:30pm
Jan 11	Basketball Home Game 3pm Chrysalis Academy
Jan 17	No School MLK Day
Jan 21	Brown Bag Lunch 1pm
Birthdays	
Jan 1	Mrs. Martin
Jan 9	C.J. Stephens
Jan 19	Philip Keckler
Jan 20	Ms. King

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.

FROM THE HEADMASTER

WOW it's 2011!!! I hope everyone enjoyed the holiday break. So glad to see everyone back! We had the gym floor resurfaced over the break and you will see how shiny our floors look. Report cards for the first semester go out this week and we are excited about our drama class for the second semester. Thank you all for your holiday treats and thoughtful gifts.

I look forward to seeing all of the parents at Hal's this Sunday at 6:30 for our kick-off to our big fundraiser in March! Happy New Year!

Debbi Scarborough

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

Cumberland Academy of Georgia is excited to announce the launch of our Vision Quest program. A vision quest is a central theme that is attached to the lesson plans and makes learning more authentic and meaningful. This will have no bearing on the actual curriculum and will change nothing about the way in which we deliver the materials. In fact, implementing a vision quest will only afford the students yet another way to connect with the curriculum. The vision quest themes will be different between the Pioneers and Explorers. The Pioneers' vision quest will be "The Shape of Things to Come", while the Explorers to the theme of: "How My Perception Shapes My World". We have no doubt that the Vision Quest program will be another great success for our school.

Cheers, Dr. Preston

CLASSROOM NEWS

Ms. King's Class (The Explorers)

My first semester at Cumberland Academy was truly amazing - from the parental support to working with the students each day there was never a dull minute!

We are beginning this semester with a bang! Currently in Spanish we are beginning to cover irregular verbs and from a cultural standpoint we are learning about Puerto Rico. Also, the Spanish students will visit a Mexican restaurant this month at some point to practice their Spanish speaking abilities. C.A.'s Algebra students are working with slope, multi-step equations, and analyzing data in a graph or table. Ms. King's Course 3 students are working with volume, perimeter, and we are just beginning to balance simple equations. The Elementary Science students are studying the layers of the Earth. The Physical Science students are still working through a study about waves.

I am looking forward to a great semester!



Mr. Carsia's Classes (The Explorers)

Gymnosperm - Angiosperm Wreaths

Made by the

Life Science Class



The two highest Levels of the Plant kingdom, Gymnosperm have seeds rather than spores while Angiosperm produce flowers that become fruit or berry coated seeds; they are the most diverse and largest group of plants. As we return for the second semester students will now look at environmental deforestation issues by incorporating a movie of a real life story of a boy who took on the lumber company for the Kemode or Spirit Bear.



"Grinch is forced to integrate a Holiday theme into his curriculum!"

CLASSROOM NEWS

Mrs. Martin's Class (The Explorers)

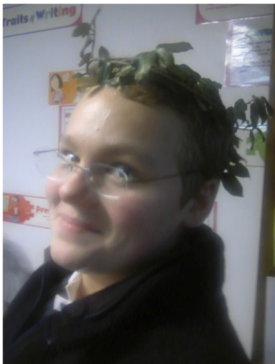
Lit I-The students have completed *A Christmas Carol*. During January we will be researching literary innovations that occur in written work and films. The students will also be completing a Prezi on their AR Winter Break Reading Project.

GA History-The students have completed their study of GA in the early 1800's. We will be beginning our study of the Civil War and will be viewing excerpts from North and South.

World History-The students have completed their study of the 5 major religions of the world. The students will begin their study of Russian and the Byzantine Empire. This will take our conversations into the beginning of the 1200's.

US History-The students have finished their study of the Civil War and Reconstruction. The students will begin their study of the early 1900's after the break.

Lit II- The students have completed *Julius Caesar*. During January we will be researching literary innovations that occur in written work and films. The students will also be completing a Prezi on their AR Winter Break Reading Project.



Walker West is wearing a crown of "olive" leaves. Mrs. Martin's class was reading *Julius Caesar*.

Coach Henck (The Pioneers)

We are excited to announce our second basketball match of the year. It is against *Chrysalis Academy* in our gym at 3pm on Tuesday, January 11th. It is sure to be another great match!

Our last basketball get together will be on Tuesday, January 18th at 3pm. We will have a Blue vs White basketball game at 3pm with a Celebration Party for the players at 4pm.

Look forward to information on another intramural sport to come home soon!



CLASSROOM NEWS

Ms. Thurmond's Class (The Pioneers)

Wow! I can't believe it is 2011 already...half of our school year is complete. We still have lots to learn this semester. Pioneers will be focusing on their future to start the New Year. Through their literature classes we will be writing resolutions. After identifying personal, school and home goals, students will write why these goals are important. Then students will further the written assignment to explain how they will meet these goals. Red literature students will need to think a little further into the future by making goals for the year 2015. After stating their goals for 2015, students will identify short term goals for this year that will help them reach their 2015 goal. Watch out parents...we have a lot of students that are expecting a car by 2015!!

All literature classes will be reading new novels this month, too. Please check student agendas for reading assignments and encourage students to stay current with their reading. Every student should have an AR book to read on nights when there isn't a reading assignment.

Course 1 students are continuing with their math vocabulary dictionaries this month. This class will have 2 vocabulary quizzes and 2 skill tests this month. Skills stressed this month include working with decimals, fractions, exponents and percentages.

Course 2 students will continue progressing through their math book. Skills will become more complicated as algebraic concepts are introduced this month. Showing your work is essential for completing these multi-step problems correctly.



Ms. Kennedy's Class (The Pioneers)

In Geography class we have moved on to the Andes and the Pampas. Among the many diverse regions we are studying, there are the Galapagos Islands, which are part of Ecuador. We will also be looking at Machu Picchu in Peru and Lake Titicaca in Bolivia. The students will also spend some time looking into the mysteries of Easter Island before moving onto Brazil.

In Social Studies class, we are concentrating on the different types of people who were influenced by Manifest Destiny and decided to go out West. We are also looking at the people who were already settled out West and how this affected them. We will be creating some in class dramatizations in order to empathize with these different groups of people. We will then start on the causes of the Civil War.

Finally, in art class we are starting work with clay. We will be creating snowmen out of pinch pots.



New Uniform Shirts for Sale at School

We now have short sleeve Cumberland Academy of Georgia, white, polo shirts and hoodies for sale at the school. Both Youth and Adult sizes are available. Polo shirts on sale for \$19.00 and dark blue hoodies \$31.00. Light blue hoodies \$27.00.



CFO Corner, Valerie Siciliano

First, I would like to thank all the parents for the wonderful holiday gifts and treats. I truly appreciate your thoughtfulness. I hope everyone had a great holiday break!

REMEMBER! Our fundraiser kickoff dinner is this **Sunday, January 9, 2011 at 6:30** at **Hal's Restaurant**, located on Old Ivy in Buckhead. The evening is a fun, organized event with great food, drinks, and door prizes. The more people we have joining the dinner, the more money will be donated to Cumberland by Mr. Hal Nowak. Please RSVP for the dinner at valerie.siciliano@cumberlandacademy.org

Mark your calendars for the **Denim & Dice** annual fundraiser—**Saturday, March 12, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.** in the gymnasium. It's always a fun night of dinner, dancing, and entertainment. This year we will have gambling tables! Be sure to look for your invitations in the next coming month!

Valerie Siciliano/CFO • (404) 262-0404 • valerie.siciliano@cumberlandacademy.org

Dr. Kelli's Korner

Dr. Kelli's Corner:

Happy New Year! I am thrilled to be back after the restful break to work with your wonderful children. Feel free to make an appointment to come see me this 2011 - perhaps you have new goals to help your child, and I would love to hear them!

We are finally getting ready to start the sandtray groups. While I have been utilizing one sand tray in the counseling office, we will now use multiple trays for social skills group work. Thank you so much to those parents that have brought miniature items in for us to use in building a "world" in the sandtray. We now need many more items to use for the groups. If you happen to have miniature items (animals, landscape/trees, transportation, housing, etc.) that you are willing to donate for this project - we would be grateful. Thank you!



FYI...

*Please check out Autism Speaks website at www.autismspeaks.com for the Asperger Syndrome and High Functioning Autism Tool Kit. It's a great source of information.

*Cumberland Academy of Georgia will once again partner with Mt. Vernon Presbyterian School for Nathan's Driving School Teenage Driver Education Programs. For more information and to register, please go to www.mvpsdrivereducation.com.

*Pioneer Parents will be scheduling a "work day" soon. Dates and times will be sent home through Snapgrades.

*We have "gently used uniforms" for sale. Please donated any uniforms that your student has outgrown.

*The Caterers menu for the month of January is posted on Snapgrades.

*You can support the library through "Birthday Book Club" this allows parents, friends, and grandparents to have an opportunity to make a contribution to the library in honor of your student's birthday. See Kathy Ellison for more information.



Wish List

- *Sand Trays
- *Text Books
- *Digital Camera
- *Large Color Copier
- *2 Nunchuk Wii controllers
- *Xbox 360 Games
- * Dolly Hand Truck
- * LCD Projectors
- *Microwave



Publix Partner in Education Cards

Be sure to pick up some cards located in the side lobby. Please give cards to your friends and family. The school receives a percentage of every sale scanned!



The Chick-fil-A Cow stopped by to help celebrate Spirit Day!!