

December 2013

2525 Wonder Way
Wilmington, NC 28401

Mark Your December Calendars!!!

Holiday festival:

The time is near! NEXT Saturday, December 7th from 10:00am-2:00pm, our amazing Partnership and parents have organized our annual Holiday Festival.



There will be llama rides, a bouncy house, Trolley Stop hot dogs, a Popcorn Machine, Holiday activities in the K-8 classrooms and AMAZING baskets to be raffled! Stay turned for the preview day for the baskets next week! This is a fun community event for everyone and all money that

is raised goes straight back into your child's classrooms.

Angel Tree:

Please remember as well that the CFCI Angel Tree is in the front office during the day and multi-purpose room in the afternoons. The ornaments on the tree

each have items for children of our CFCI families that need some extra support

this year. This is what the season is all about...giving! If you are able, please consider taking an ornament or two and purchasing a gift to help out!



Holiday concerts:

Our CFCI band and Musical Theater students have been working hard all year to prepare for the Winter concerts. The performance will be at 7pm on December 17th at the Apostolic Church on Wonder Way. Come out and enjoy some seasonal music and exciting performances!

Lastly, just a reminder that December 19th is our last day before the winter break. The 20th is a teacher workday and students return January 6th.

We truly hope that you all have a wonderful break and get the chance to relax and be with family...there is nothing more important! Happy Holidays to you all and Happy NEW YEAR!!!

Website:

www.cfc.net

December 2013

Dates to Remember:

- 11/27-12/1: Thanksgiving Break
- 12/2: Fundraising Mtg.
- 12/5: Chili's Night!
- 12/7: Holiday Festival
- 12/7: Board Meeting- 11:30am (brief Dec. mtg and attending Holiday Festival!)
- 12/9: Finance Mtg.
- 12/10: L3 Mtg.
- 12/13: School wide band concert for students 8:30am
- 12/16: Yearbook Meeting
- 12/17: Band and Musical Theater Concert- 7pm (at the church)
- 12/19: Last day for students
- 12/20-1/5: Winter Break

Bring your old electronics on the 7th!

Don't know what to do with that broken cell phone? Have printer cartridges you are about to throw away? **STOP!!!**

You can help the Green Team raise money, recycle, AND get tickets at the Winter Festival!

For every 5 cell phones, ink cartridges, or small electronics you bring in you will receive a ticket at Winter Festival. (limit 2 tickets) In return for your used electronics and cartridges Funding Factory will send our school money!

For more information on the Funding Factory please visit their website: www.fundingfactory.com



Green Team Update- Pollinator Garden & K-3 Playground

The Green Team and CFCI again thanks the Cape Fear Garden Club for the Pollinators' Garden by the flag pole. We also want to thank Ms. Anderson and her 7th graders for helping plant the garden and to Ms. Barker's service academy for spreading mulch!

It is great to know that students are

involved in the Green Improvements on campus. We'll hope to see all of the plants die off, and then return in the spring as great perennials do.

We are VERY excited to report that we now have a plan in place for the first week of December to make some improvements to our K-3 playground space. Weather permitting, we have

a crew coming in to address the wash-out that has occurred over the years, repair the fence and put down new ground cover so your children will not be quite as filthy after some hard core running around and playing at recess! Our K-3 classes will use other spaces for recess while that work is being done when we return from break.

Important Reminders:

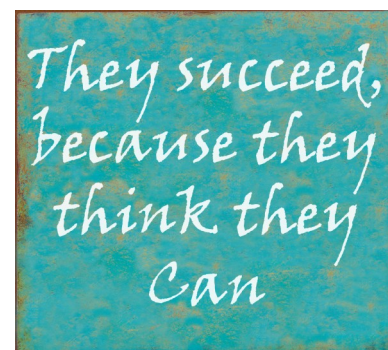
New Drop Off Procedures:

It's been a great success these first three days! We just ask that parents please continue to watch your speed on campus. When you are dropping off, please do not pass the carline after you drop off. The line is moving quickly, but our only fear is that with folks trying to drive around others that someone is going to have a collision. Please be very careful.

Lottery & Prospective Parent Meetings:

It is hard to believe that we are already preparing for our next lottery! If you know prospective parents that are interested in learning more about CFCI, our parent meeting dates are as follows: January 11th 10am-11:30am; January 14th 6:00pm-7:30pm; January 23rd 5:30pm-7:00pm; January 29th 4:30pm-6:00pm. The lottery will be held on

February 19th at 9am! Such an exciting time!



Tips for Volunteering in the Classroom

At CFCI, we thrive on having volunteers in our classrooms, on field trips, et. I am often asked by parents, "how can I help?" Here are a few important tips to keep in mind when volunteering.

- Make sure that you and the teacher have agreed upon your volunteer times so that he/she can properly plan to have multiple sets of hands. Sometimes a lesson plan/preparation will look different based on the amount of help and support that will be there.
- Make sure that you are there to work with ALL students as needed, not just your own. While

it is a great time to see your own child, it can be distracting and is not as helpful to the students and teacher if your time is solely focused on your own child.

- Touch base with the teacher and don't be afraid to ask if you are not sure about the content you are helping with
- Let teachers know your interests and what you are comfortable with (i.e.: math, reading, etc.)

We really appreciate and love all of

our volunteers! Please understand that there are some parts of the day that having volunteers is helpful and others that may not be as appropriate. Please keep the lines of communication open with classroom teachers to make sure you are collaborating on the expectations and times to be in the classroom.



Turkey Trot 2013- A Great Time Had By All

On Monday, November 25th we held our third annual CFCI Turkey Trot. This year the non-perishables were donated to three different organizations including the Wilmington Food Bank, Nourish NC, and Mother Hubbard's Cupboard. Together, our students and community brought in over 1200 items! We will have a final count later in the year.

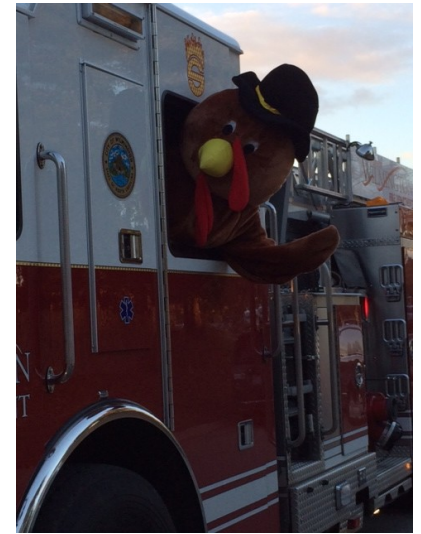


We had our BIGGEST turn out to date at the Turkey Trot! It was a HUGE, successful community event!

We send big thank yous to Mike Rheel for organizing the event, to Rob and Tara Smith-Russell for the food donations and set up/clean up help, to the Buckner's for the Dairy Queen donations, to Ms. Kelly's Mom for playing the role of a hilarious TURKEY, to Madison, Jordan and John Mielkarski and Port Nugent for a concert following the trot, to the Wilmington

Fire Department for making an appearance and to the Wilmington Police Department bagpiper Sgt. Tillman. It

was a fun event! There are many more pictures posted on the website in our photo gallery.



CFCI State Testing Results

The State of NC measures schools through state testing by looking at three areas. The State and Federal AMO (Annual Measurable Objectives), overall proficiency (% that scored a 3 or 4) and student growth from one year to the next. At CFCI, we truly do not focus on teaching students the test, rather we teach the whole child. In doing so we prepare them for life skills including test taking strategies, but more importantly, we teach them to research, problem solve, to ask questions, and experience learning. That has historically proven to connect with higher student achievement and this year is no exception.

While we certainly have areas to work and grow, our achievement levels were significantly higher than the state average. There were some big changes this past year. All tests and achievement expectations were changed for students when the state adopted the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts

and Mathematics and the Essential Standards in Science.

Proficiency: Percent of students who scored a level 3 or 4 which is

District	Proficiency Level
CFCI	66%
State of NC	44.7%
New Hanover	53%
Brunswick	42.5%
Pender	44.4%
Charter Day	58.3%
Wilmington Prep	22.6%

considered passing. *Our overall proficiency percentage was 66%.*

Growth: State reports growth via EVAAS which stands for Educator Value Added Assessment System. Uses complex formulas and testing history to calculate a growth index

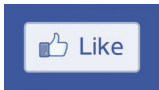
for students from year to year. The state reports as Did Not Meet Growth, Meets Growth, Exceeds Growth

CFCI Met Overall Growth, exceeding growth in both 6th and 7th grade math

Annual Measurable Objectives (AMO's)- Subgroups reported to both state and federal government. Some schools have more than 150 subgroups. *CFCI has 13 Federal and 17 State Objectives and we met expectations in all areas.*

If you have questions about any of this information or your child's individual test scores, please don't hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher, Lori Roy or Jennifer Paetzold.

Partnership (PTO) Update



Hello wonderful CFCI families,

The Partnership has had so much fun the past month planning for the Holiday Festival, hosting Chili's night and participating in the Turkey Trot. We hope everyone had Happy Thanksgiving with family and friends.

December 7th will be our annual Holiday Festival. This is a great time for families to come enjoy some fun, games and crafts and support the Partnership while doing so. Each grade has been busy collecting items for raffle baskets and planning



either a game or craft. We can't wait to see how things turn out. The festival will begin at 10:00 a.m. and end at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 25 for \$20.00. These tickets can be used for activities and the raffle baskets. We will be set up in the Multipurpose Room for ticket sales and the raffle baskets will be displayed there as well. The Green Team will be collecting your old electronics, toners, etc.. in exchange for additional tickets as well (2 tickets max). You can also turn in 50 box tops (attached to collection sheets) and receive 5 extra tickets as well. A flyer



with more information will go home on Monday - make sure you check your child's folder.

After the Holiday Festival we will host one more Chili's night on December 12th. This will benefit the 4th

grade. Remember all sales, lunch and dinner, are included in the total. Make sure you let your server know you are with CFCI.

Enjoy your winter break and holidays. We will see everyone in 2014!

The Partnership
Jennifer Fite, Partnership Chairperson

Meet CFCI Board Member, Todd Godbey

Todd H. Godbey has been active in community and children's organizations throughout his entire career. Todd went to work for the YMCA as an after-school counselor while in college. After graduation, he worked for the YMCA of Central North Carolina where he rose to Chief Executive Officer.

Todd has owned and/or operated a number of different businesses over the years, including a chain of retail boat dealerships, a real estate company, a production company and a nightclub, to name a few, and has been in the advertising and marketing business for over 17 years. He is now the publisher of Nancy Hall Publications, which publishes:

Kidsville News!, the well-read, family

educational resource, and *Living Out Loud*, a magazine dedicated to celebrating the active lifestyle of

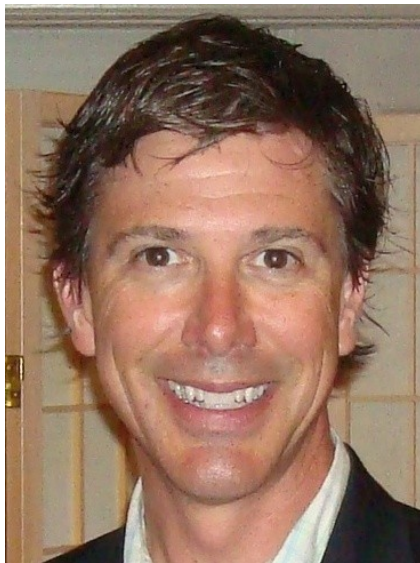
Boomers and seniors who laugh, love and live in Southeastern North Carolina. For his work with *Living Out Loud* magazine, Todd was a recipient of a 2011 Coastal Entrepreneur of the Year Award, from the UNCW Entrepreneurship Center and the *Greater Wilmington Business Journal*. He was awarded a Home-town Hero Award in December of 2009 from WECT for his work with literacy and

children, was honored in 2013 with a Salute Award from Brunswick County Schools for his commit-

ment to education and was awarded the 2012 Door of Opportunity Award by the North Brunswick Chamber of Commerce.

Todd is the father of four: a daughter, Sloan, and three sons, Damien, Jonathan and Eli. He is on the board of directors of several local organizations, including The Children's Foster Care Fund, the Carousel Center for Abused Children, the North Brunswick Chamber of Commerce, the Cape Fear Center for Inquiry and Communities in Schools of Brunswick County (and two HOA boards).

Todd, his husband Justin and their family -- which also includes two dogs, four chickens, two turtles and a whole lot of fish -- make their home in Wilmington, NC.



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Middle Grades First Quarter Academies

Middle Grades students had their first quarter Academy Days on November 25th and 26th. There were seven different academies that offered two concentrated days of study and activity revolving around various topic of study. The academies were:



restoration, to gardening, to working with young children. In addition to a variety of academic pursuits, students experienced the value of helping out in the community and the sense of satisfaction and self worth that it can bring.

They took field trips to two local gyms/ cross fit facilities.



Chess Academy with Mrs. Adams— Students in chess academy played lots of chess and taught each other new strategies. They learned about a few chess champions and even got to see some beautiful hand made chess



Clothes, Chocolate and Fair Trade! Oh My! With Mrs. McCorcle Students

investigate what Fair Trade means, where their food and clothes come from and re-



searched the background behind products they use, wear and eat each day. Students worked to determine if unethical practices took place in the creation of these items and researched local areas that offer fair trade options in Wilmington.

Your Feast with Mr. Barker: Students learned to cook, prepare and eat holiday foods. They learned tips to help their families as well as food safety, food preparation, and some history. Students shared recipes and cooked a feast at the NHC Arboretum Kitchen on Tuesday!

sets. We ended the academy with a suspenseful tournament.

Service Academy with Mrs. Sadie-

Students had the opportunity to work on a variety of projects around the school, from furniture



Academy of Stress Relief, Health and Wellness:

Students ex-

perienced a variety of ways to relieve stress including aromatherapy, meditation, music and journal writing.

Photography Academy with Mrs. Konrady: Students learned the basic of digital photography, had a guest speaker to help guide them through steps and techniques and

moved throughout the CFCI campus taking amazing pictures! On Tuesday they had a school-wide exhibit to share their successes.



Academy of Flight

with Mrs. Anderson: Students explored the scientific principles behind flight through various activities and experiments. They used Frisbees, paper airplanes and more!