

CFCI Fall 2017 News

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NEWSLETTER DATE

DATES TO

REMEMBER:

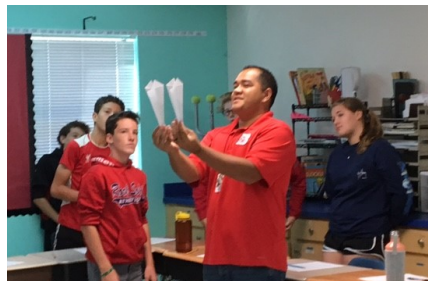
- 9/22: Middle Grades Dance 6:00-8:00pm
- 9/26: Family Pizza Night 5:30-7:30pm
- 9/28: 1/2 Day for students—UTOTES (outdoor grant) training for teachers!
- 9/29—Teacher Workday
- 10/2-10/13—FUND THE WONDER!
- 10/2—PCN Mtg 6-8pm
- 10/17—Board of Directors Mtg 6pm
- 10/18-10/20—Middle Grades Retreat
- 10/23—Green Team 3:30
- 10/26—1/2 Day Students (End 1st Quarter)
- 10/27—Teacher Workday
- 10/31—Halloween (no costumes please)
- 11/6-11/9—BOOK-FAIR!

The Year is off to a GREAT start!

CFCI teachers and students are having a fantastic start to the school year! As we shared at our K-3 and 4-8 Parent Nights, we are really focusing on meeting the needs of all of our students through our MTSS framework. We are structuring our classrooms so that stu-

dents feel safe, cared for and ready to take risks

all students that have a strong balance of teacher-led, and teacher-facilitated components of the day. Students are able to really inquire when they feel safe to take risks, are appropriately challenged, and have the resources they need to investigate! We LOVE creating these spaces for the kids at CFCI!



Mr. E. has 8th graders create paper airplane investigations in math

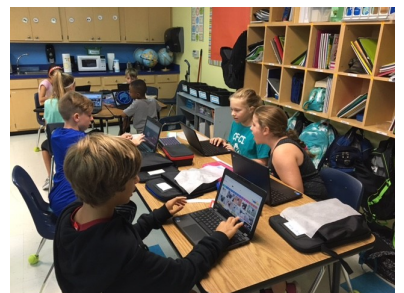


Ms. Rene's 1st graders having a Number Talks discussion!

Kindergartners exploring during centers!



through Responsive Classroom. Because of this framework and structure, we are able to create learning environments for



5th and 6th graders are excited about their new Chromebooks!

6th graders researching landforms and ecosystems to create their own societies!



7th Graders take on Cape Lookout



Amazing views from the top of the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse.

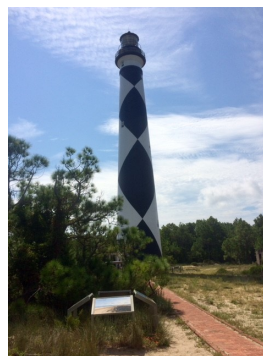
This September, CFCI's 7th graders took a trip to Cape Lookout National Seashore. These remote barrier islands are home to a genetically isolated group of wild horses, one of NC's iconic lighthouses, and a diverse ecosystem that

changes with the tides. Students took ranger-lead tours around



the island, exploring the dune systems and climbing the 207 steps up to the top of the lighthouse for a breathtaking view. The beaches are kept

pristine by Cape Lookout's "no trash" policy-- all trash must be taken off the island when visitors leave, en-

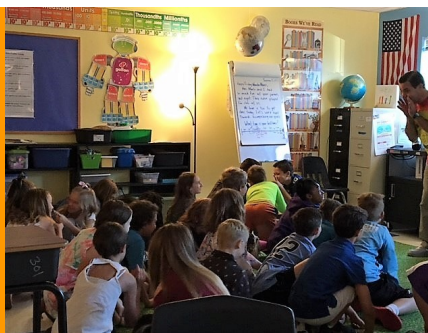


suring that Cape Lookout remains a beautiful destination for years to come. After a day packed full of learning and exploring, students ended the trip exhausted-- but not too tired for impromptu karaoke on the bus ride home.

Responsive Classroom...it's everywhere!

"What you do everyday matters more than what you do every once in a while."

Mr. D's students sail the high seas during morning meeting



Our teachers and students are off and running with Responsive Classroom with a renewed energy after sending an awesome team to some summer training! We have had

two whole-staff trainings this year and we were able to bring some more detailed information for parents into our K-3 and 4-8 parent meetings. In February, our Specialists are hitting the road

to Chapel Hill for a Responsive Classroom training specific to them. We are rocking and rolling! Have questions about RC? Contact your child's teacher or our school counselor, Michal Cohen-- mcohen@cfc.net.



5th grade parents play Fan Club!



Mrs. Sharpe's class prepares to "catch" Hopes & Dreams!

Ms. Michele's 2nd Grade Class wraps up their day with Closing Circle



Ms. Marla's students establish classroom rules together!

Food-A-Palooza



Caption describing picture or graphic.

Mr. Rheel and his 8th grade students culminated a Nutrition Unit with an awesome project where students developed their own recipes or used recipes from home. They shared their items with judges from some of Wilmington's most frequented restaurants! We want

to extend a HUGE thank you to these very busy people for not only sampling middle grades student-made food, but for taking the time to give real, quality feedback to individuals as well as the whole-group. Our guest judges were Rob Russell from Chili's, Michelle Lucido from Pizzetta's and William Mellon from **manna** and CFCI teacher, Kelly Rooney also assisted in judging.. The students

were so engaged in the project, and also in the conversations with the judges. What a great, real-world experience for our kids! Thank you Mr. Rheel!



"Education is not

preparation

for life;

education is

life itself."

~ John Dewey

Ryutoaro Shintani visits CFCI

On Friday, September 8th, Ryutoaro Shintani, professor of education in Japan (Heian Jogakuin St. Agnes' University and Osaka Kyoiku University) visited CFCI to observe our teachers and students emerged in our inquiry-based curriculum.

Professor Shintani was excited to see our teachers facilitate students in an engaging, thoughtful learning process. He had the opportunity to observe a morning meeting in 4th grade followed by 5th grade bridge building. He then moved on to middle

grades, observing 6th grade students investigating landforms throughout the CFCI property to determine the best

location for their societies they are developing in small groups. He saw 8th graders developing their own rubrics in

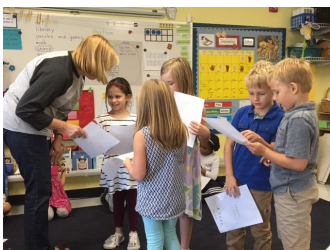
social studies and of course, Mr. Hart had an engaging conversation with his students about hurricane Irma who was upon us! He was intrigued by the media sources Mr. Rose used in Ethics course. He also ventured into our K-3 classrooms where he got to see Hopes and Dreams as well as our rule-making process and he wrapped up his day observing Ms. Rene's 1st graders investigating combinations of

numbers in math class. When Mr. Shintani left



CFCI, he was very enthusiastic, impressed, and is hoping to return to visit again and continue to further

develop his research on American schools and Japanese schools. He was excited to take back what he observed at CFCI and share it with students and colleagues! He said that he has studied John Dewey and his beliefs in education, but never had he seen a school that truly lived and breathed this way of teaching and learning! We love CFCI and are thankful for feedback from our guests all over the world!



1st Graders Experience the Outdoors



1st Graders use the outdoor classroom for nature journaling.

Ms. Rene's 1st grade class has a renewed focus on the outdoors. Rene has been doing quite a bit of research, reading and attending professional development about using the outdoors for education. She is focusing her Personal Inquiry Project (PIP) for this year on this idea. This past Tuesday, Rene's class spent almost all day in class, outdoors. The students were engaged in observations, journaling, collaboration and exploration. Rene is also working with our Green Team, Melissa Reese and a volunteer committee to enhance our playground spaces with additional outdoor opportunities for learning through play for students of all ages.

Next Thursday, a large majority of our teachers will participate in our first UTOTES (Using The Outdoors To Educate Students) professional development where we will investigate further how to best use the spaces we have to bring learning to life for our kids. We are excited about this opportunity to energize our teachers, in turn engaging our students!



Given a chance, a child will bring the confusion of the world to the woods, wash it in the creek, and turn it over to see what lives on the unseen die of that confusion....

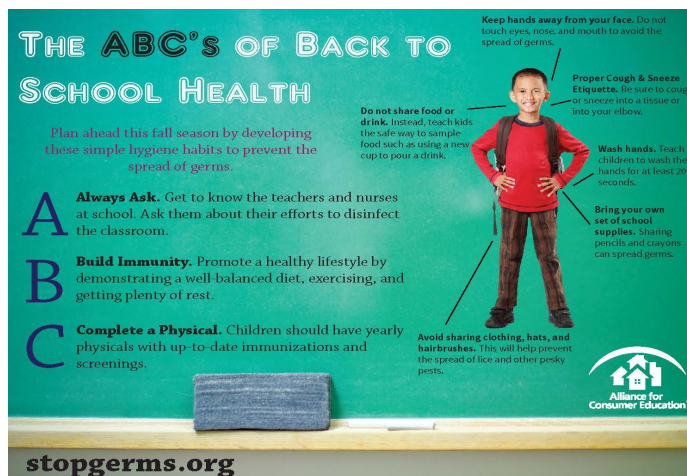
In nature, a child finds freedom, fantasy, and privacy; a place distant from the adult world, a separate place.

~The Last Child In the Woods

Staying Healthy this time of year!

Parents: Here are just a few reminders as we enter into the cooler months:

- ⇒ **Remind students to wash hands**
- ⇒ **If your child has a fever over 100.4, they need to stay home**
- ⇒ **If your child is throwing up, they need to stay home**
- ⇒ **If your child contracts a communicable disease (ie: Fifth's disease, ringworm, pertussis, etc.) the school may ask for a document from your pediatrician ensuring the child is free and clear to return to school.**
- ⇒ **Please see the attached Lice letter with reminders!**



A Message from the Partnership (PTO)

Hello CFCI Family,

It feels great to be back in the swing of a new school year. Here are some reminders, invitations, and requests from the Partnership:

Relink your VIC card at Harris Tee-ter!

You can do it online or at the customer service desk at your favorite store!

The Middle School Dance theme this year is "A Night in Hollywood." The big night is Friday, Sept. 22nd. Tickets are \$8 and include, pizza, treats, DJ and photo booth. The event is sure to be a success! Special thanks to all volunteers working so hard to make this event happen.

Fun Pizza Night is Tuesday, Sept. 26th! Slices will be \$1.00 and we will have our usual lemonade and water. The 5th grade will have a bake sale to benefit their trip to Jamestown and Williamsburg coming up in the spring. There will be a short Partnership meeting, but mostly we just want some time to enjoy each other's company and have fun! See you then, rain or shine!



Sign up for pizza here: <https://goo.gl/forms/RM2ophS5LX8PcU3z1>

Fund the Wonder! is our annual fund-raising event. The Partnership funds the wonder by asking for donations instead of asking you and your child to sell wrapping paper or candy bars. Our generous CFCI family usually raises close to \$10,000 annually and the Partnership uses that money in lots of different ways to directly impact our students. Look for more information coming Oct. 2-13th!

Coming up:

Scholastic Book Fair Family Night-- Monday, November 6th, 6-8pm

Winter Festival-- Saturday, December 2nd, 10-2pm



Fam-ily

Don't forget to re-link those VIC cards and SAVE your Box tops!!!

"Wisdom begins in wonder."