

Winter Greetings to Our Families!

Wrapping Up 2022 & Happy New Year 2023!

It's been a wonderful year with lots of great fun and learning to celebrate together!

Dear CFCI Families,

Our winter break is the perfect time to relax, rejoice, and rejuvenate! It's the time to make merry and spend time with families and friends near and far. We thought you might enjoy some of the wonderful learning and experiences that happened prior to us taking a break from school - between museums, academies, and holiday celebrations, CFCI students, teachers, staff, and families created many moments to celebrate!



Two exciting pieces of news we would like to share with all of you:

1. **SAVE THE DATE! Friday, March 31st** from 7-9 is our **Auction for Inquiry**. This year, our auction will focus on Art, Experiences, & Travel. This is our newly branded auction with an incredible team of parent volunteers including Courtney Boucher and Christyanna Durand, who are chairing the event. They would love our community's help with sponsorships, auction items, buying tables & tickets, & marketing this incredible event! We are excited to announce that we have partnered with St. Thomas Preservation Hall in downtown Wilmington to host this fun-filled evening of dancing, light dining, & bidding on some amazing auction items - all to benefit our students and our teachers! - So plan ahead & **Save the Date**. We have confirmed our own Camille Hartley's band, Gin Fizz as the entertainment - see the clip below to hear their amazing stylings!

2. **On Friday, December 9th** the New Hanover Community Endowment (NHCE) announced its 2022 Cape Fear Opportunities and Needs grant recipients which included CFCI. This was the endowment's inaugural round of investments in the community. The NHCE distributed more than \$9 million to various nonprofits in New Hanover County including a grant to CFCI in the amount of \$80,000 which will be used to support the school's mission of cultivating curiosity by providing students with opportunities to experience field experiences in the community and beyond. The school will use the funding to help purchase an activity bus that is capable of transporting an entire grade level to and from field experiences grounded in inquiry. We provided extensive information on CFCI's mission, goals, and plans for use of the funds that would be allocated. The endowment received over 291 applications and distributed one-time, non-renewable grants to a small number of organizations with missions that aligned with the endowment's overall goals. We are thankful to have been positioned to apply and be

chosen for the Endowment's inaugural grant. We plan to purchase the bus in 2023 prior to the end of the school year. We are excited about this outstanding opportunity and look forward to sharing more details with you soon.

Enjoy your time away and please remember we will see students on Wednesday, January 4th. We have two teacher workdays on Monday and Tuesday, January 2nd & 3rd.

Happy New Year, Everyone!

Kim and Susan, Co-Directors



The Eclectic Sound of Gin Fizz!

Our own Camille Hartley's band Gin Fizz will play for the evening!



St. Thomas Preservation Hall

208 Dock St in Downtown
Wilmington.



Save the Date! March 31st, 7- 9pm!

Mark your calendars for an evening of fun and great auction items!

**Gin Fizz's eclectic style will be gracing our Auction for
Inquiry on 3/31!**

Gin Fizz * Come Together/Feelin Good * The Beatles/Nina Simone | By Gin Fizz | Facebook

CFCI is proud to announce that we have been awarded an inaugural NHC Endowment Grant!



[About Us > New H...](#)

www.nhcendowment.org

The board is empowered to accept, hold, invest, reinvest, and administer any gifts, grants, bequests, devises, benefits of trusts, and property of any sort on behalf of the endowment. The 13 members, appointed by Successor Local Hospital and the County, have demonstrated leadership within the community and hold prior governance experience that meets the high standard and conduct of the public serving board.

Moments to Celebrate 🎉

Clue Academy with Ms. Mintz



Clue Academy!

We were fortunate enough to have Detective Daniel Ruisueno and CSI Natalie Philips from Wilmington Police Department.



They came to speak to our academy about detective work and crime scene investigative processes.

Collecting information to solve crime by talking to witnesses and informants, collecting physical evidence, or searching records in databases are key aspects of their job.



It was an amazing academy and an amazing day!

Our academy students learned the importance of doing the job right so that criminals are arrested and convicted.

Ms. K's 4th Grade Gum Drop STEM Challenge is a Sweet Success!



Collaboration is the key to building a tall tree!!

Students in Ms. K's 4th grade class worked in pairs on a Gum Drop Challenge.



What is the task? How will it work?

They were given a bag of gumdrops and a box of toothpicks and were asked to build the tallest tree possible.



What are your ideas? Let's try this...

They were asked to plan and sketch their tree before building and measured them at the end. The tallest tree was 15 in tall!

Holidays Around the World Academy - Loving the Latkes!



Ms. Jordan's class joined in the latke making with Ms. Baldwin's holiday academy students.

It was quite exciting with the potato shredding and the onion chopping and the egg cracking! Potato pancakes (called latkes) are meant to symbolize **the miracle of Hanukkah**, when the oil of the menorah in the ransacked Second Temple of Jerusalem was able to stay aflame for eight days even though there was only enough oil for one day. The symbolism comes in the form of the oil in which latkes are fried.



Potato Latkes by Parent Co.

Potato Latkes

Makes: 12-15 latkes **Prep time:** 25 minutes **Total time:** About 1 hour

Ingredients:

- 2 ½ lbs Yukon Gold Potatoes (3 or 4 good sized potatoes) peeled and cut into large pieces
- 1 small onion, peeled and cut into quarters
- 2 eggs
- ¾ cup panko breadcrumbs
- 1 ¼ tsp salt
- 1 tsp black pepper
- about 1/3 cup peanut or vegetable oil for frying



Instructions:

1. Using a box grater, or the large holed shredder attachment on your food processor (highly recommended!) grate the potatoes.
2. Immediately place the shreds in a large bowl and cover with cold water. Set aside
3. Shred the onion quarters in the same way. Set aside.
4. Drain the potato shreds well in a colander, then place in the middle of a large, clean kitchen towel or several layers of cheesecloth.
5. Place the shredded onions on top of the potatoes.
6. Twist up the towel and, holding it over the potato bowl, squeeze as much liquid out as you can. you want the mixture to be as dry as possible.



Instructions continued

1. After squeezing, rinse and dry the bowl, and place the potatoes and onions back in.
2. Add the eggs, breadcrumbs, salt, and pepper and mix well, making sure everything is incorporated.
3. Heat your oil to medium high. You can see if it's ready for frying by dropping a small bit of potato in. It should bubble up immediately. If not, wait another minute. If it pops and splutters like crazy, turn it down just a bit.
4. Squeeze about 1/4 cup of the mixture in your hands to make a small pancake, then carefully drop into the oil using a spatula or spider.
5. Fry for 2-3 minutes on each side, until the latkes are deep golden brown.
6. Drain off excess oil on paper towels.
7. Serve with applesauce and sour cream, maybe some sliced scallions, and serve HOT!

Haitian Traditions Exploration in Global Studies With Ms. Brust

Trying out the Haitian tradition of setting out a shoe on Christmas Eve and waiting to see if Tonton Nwèl leaves you a candy!

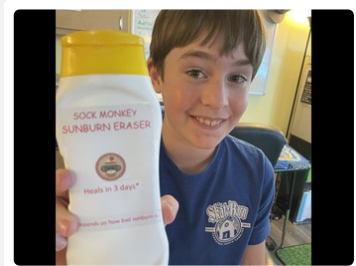


Farewell 2022 - Can't Wait to See Everyone Again in 2023!



Mr. Donley's 5th grade Economics Project

Students created a product/service, then built a model or sales flyer and came up with a sales pitch to introduce their creation.



Spa Day Academy with Ms. Benatti - Time to Relax, Rejuvenate, and Enjoy Time with Friends - New & Old!





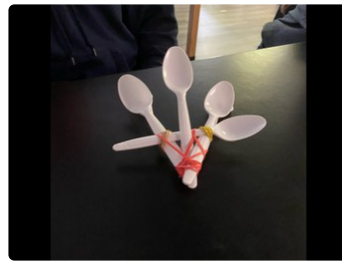
Holiday Festivities in Miss Shannon's Room - Cozy Fun & Our Parent Volunteers are Amazing! Thank You!



**Learning about the Scientific Method and STEM Challenges
Make Science Interactive with Ms. Ryder!**



Home-made Lava Lamp - Practicing the Scientific Method



Building a Catapult for Shooting (what else?) Marshmallows!

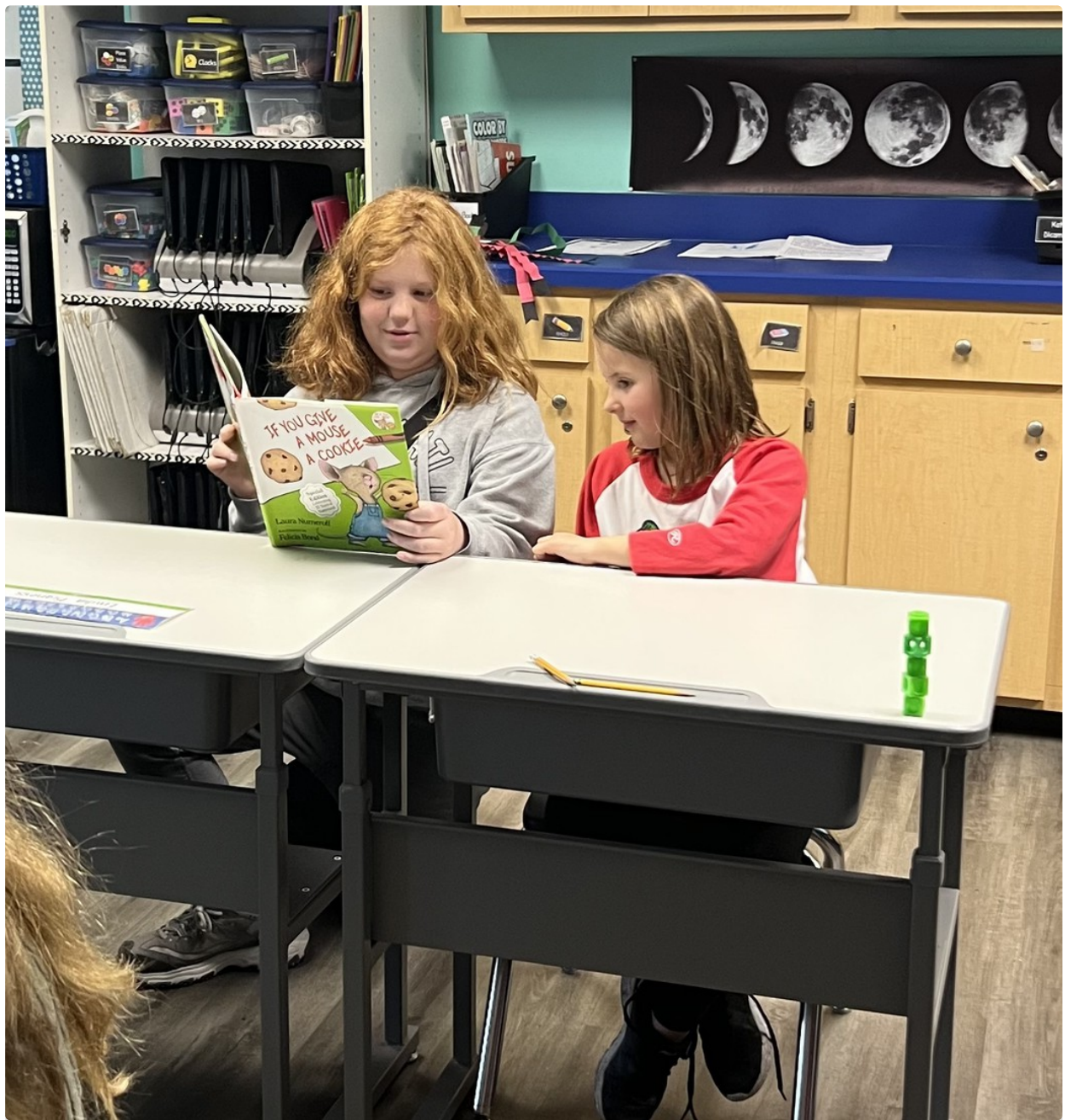


Two Students playing Park Bench during the Acting Academy

Lego Time - Sparking Our Student's Imaginations!



Reading Academy with 2nd Grade!!!



**Getting Into the Holiday Spirit with Some Festive Sweaters!
Look at Those Amazing Smiles and Gingerbread Styles!**



More Holiday Academy with Ms. Baldwin Photos...Enjoy!



Cultivating Curiosity Since 2000...

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🌐 cfc.net

