

CORNERSTONE CONNECTION

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CAREER DAY

Local professionals share their careers with students.



MY BUDDY AND ME

First and Seventh Grade team up for a new Buddy Program aimed at building community.



Kingdom of the Son Track Meet

The Cornerstone Track & Field team competes at the annual meet.



Florida State Science Fair

Four Cornerstone students qualify for the State competition.



GAME ON

A record-breaking Tribes Square Off returned for its 10th Anniversary with The Cornerstone School Community.

The much-anticipated, community-wide 10th Annual Tribes Square Off was held on the last day of school and invited all students and staff to participate in an epic field day that placed Tribe vs. Tribe... vs. Tribe vs. Tribe.

Thirty volunteers, faculty and staff, and 300 students charged the field at Brick City Park for two hours of controlled chaos. This year's event was the largest in Cornerstone history with Tribes completing a record number of challenges.

Each Tribe completed over 700 challenges, with the Incendia Tribe taking first place with over 850 completed challenges, followed by Aquanos, Terrestria, and Ventus. After Tribes Square Off students returned to campus for more water fun on inflatable slides, slip-n-slides, and splash pads.

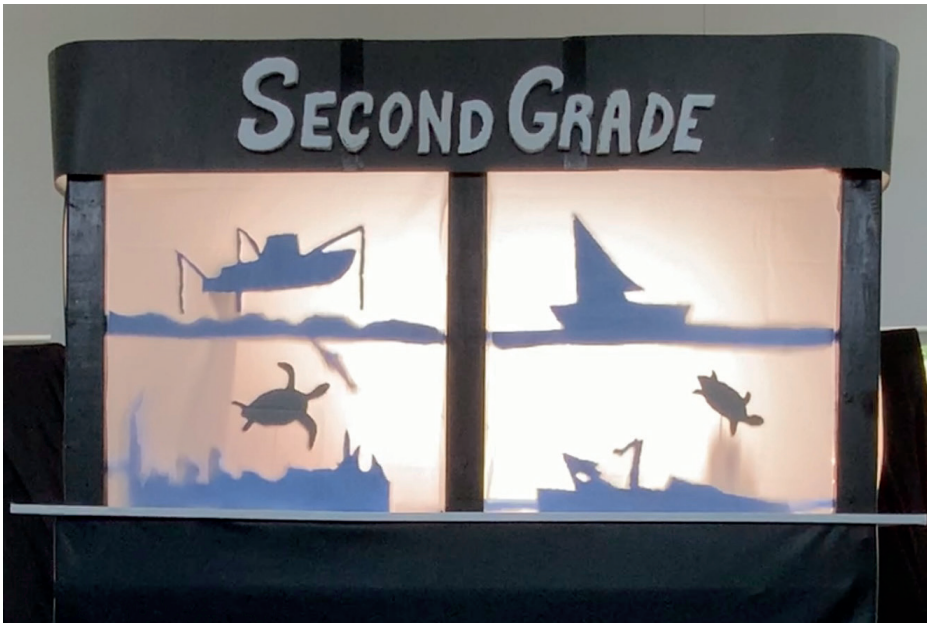
WHAT IS SQUARE OFF?

The idea is simple. Grouped by grades, students run onto the field looking for a poly spot with a number underneath. They then need to find another student with the same number. Once they have paired up, students will go to the coinciding numbers' station and complete the challenge. Once the challenge is complete students will receive a popsicle stick worth one point to drop in their Tribe's bucket. The Tribe with the most points at the end of the event wins. In the event of a tie, the Eighth Graders will compete in a sudden death challenge, winner take all.

Twelve challenges are arranged along the taped off square with volunteers stationed at each challenge to assist. Student favorite challenges include the shaving cream high five and the sponge squeeze.



One of the twelve challenges at Square Off was Dizzy Bat. Aquanos Tribe member Sawyer gave it a try.



SHADOW PUPPET THEATRE

The 2nd Annual Second Grade Shadow Puppet Theatre taught students and families about endangered animals.

The Second Grade unit on endangered animals saw the return of the student Shadow Puppet Theatre. Before the performance could begin, students first chose an endangered animal, did some research, and created a poster listing facts about their animal. Students then wrote a short skit about their animal to perform at the puppet theatre and created puppets shaped like the animals, habitats, and threats during STEM class. In May, families were invited to view the students' projects and watch the puppet theatre performances.

According to the performances, one major threat to many endangered animals is people. Whether because of hunting or loss of habitat due to urbanization or deforestation, many animals we love are in trouble and they need our help. To view the full performance, please visit the Cornerstone Facebook page at www.facebook.com/TheCornerstoneSchool.

SPRING ONLINE AUCTION

The 6th Annual Spring Auction was held online at the end of April and was a great success, raising over \$25,000 for the Cornerstone School.

Over 60 items were up for bid, including vacations, gift baskets, tickets to local events, class ceramics, and the coveted campus parking spot. For several weeks leading up to the event parents donated items for themed class baskets. Several local businesses also donated gift baskets

and items to be auctioned.

As auction items change each year, so do the number of bids. This year, the item with the most bids was the first choice of lockers for an 8th Grade student, receiving a record 37 bids. Class ceramics, Gator Tickets, and front row seats at the End of Year program received approximately 25 bids each. This year's auction items received more bids per item than the previous two auctions.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Students participated in several community outreach projects for those at Ocala Rehab and Interfaith Emergency Services.

During a Monday Tribes activity, students across the school made over 300 flower pens for our neighbors at Ocala Rehab to celebrate the arrival of Spring. Middle School students traveled to our Preschool, Junior Kindergarten, and Kindergarten classrooms to help with this project.



Parker helps Ryder create a flower pen for our neighbors at Ocala Rehab.

NJHS students organized a "Buy One, Give One" sale of fuzzy socks in the third quarter. For every pair purchased by the school community, one pair was donated directly to someone in need. Over 220 pairs of socks were donated to individuals at Interfaith Emergency Services.



NJHS students delivered socks to those in need at Interfaith Emergency Services.

TRACK MEET

The Cornerstone Track & Field team competed at the Kingdom of the Sun Track Meet in March. Congratulations to the JV Boys Team who finished in 1st Place overall.



CAREER DAY

After a three year absence, students met with several local professionals to learn about different careers in the Ocala area.

Another successful Career Day is in the books! This year's event, held in March, welcomed nine local professionals to campus giving students the opportunity to hear about different careers and how the speakers came to hold their positions.

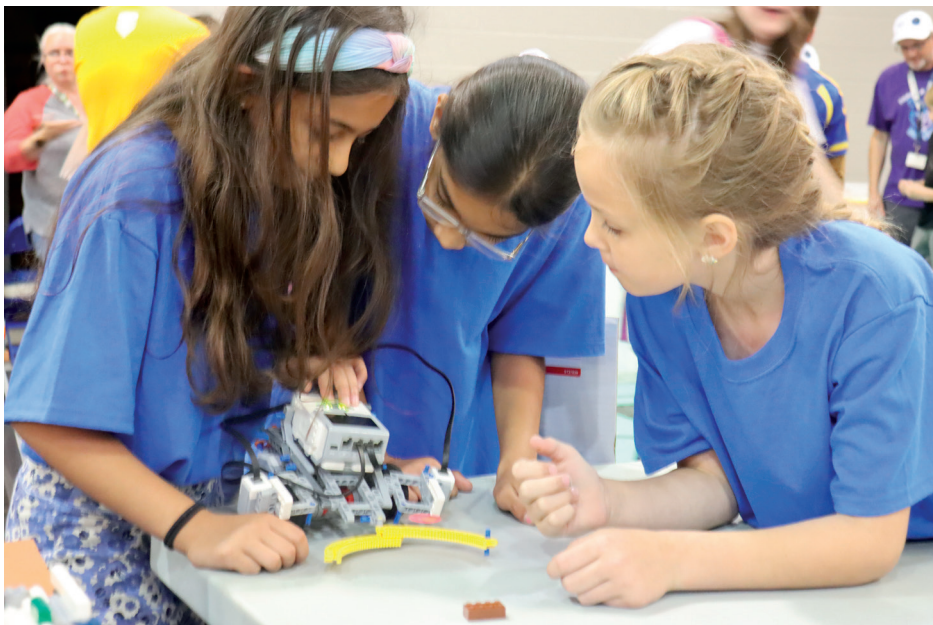
"Our previous Career Day took place on the last day of school before the Covid shut down," said Marketing and Development Coordinator Brooke Schultheis. "It was such a successful event and we couldn't wait to bring it back."

This year, Kindergarten through Fourth Grade students heard from five speakers including TV20 Meteorologist Scott Gagliardi, Margaret Dixon from

the Reilly Arts Center, and Southwest Airlines Pilot Robert Davies. Fifth through Eighth Grade students met with professionals who held more specialized positions, including Officer Roberson from the K9 Unit, Judge Paul Militello, and Cyber Security Researcher Martin Goodwin.

After a brief introduction and presentation from the speaker the students had the opportunity to ask questions and share their thoughts about what they learned. "Today was the best," said First Grader Grant.

If you are interested in being a speaker at next year's event please contact our marketing department at bschultheis@thecornerstoneschool.org.



ROBOPALOOZA

Robot enthusiasts gathered together at Belleview High School on a Saturday in March for Robopalooza, the Ocala area's annual robotics tournament. This year's event combined events from Lawrence Technological University's Robofest and the Junior First Lego League robotics showcase.

Junior First Lego League participants presented their robotics projects and demonstrated the skills they learned during their after school program. "It's hard sometimes, but it's fun," said Fourth Grader Isabella. Students who participated in the Robofest competition took turns showing off their programming skills in categories such as Robot Game, Bottle Sumo, and Automated exhibition.

For the first time in its history, two teams from Cornerstone advanced to the World Championship held in Michigan this past May. "While our teams did not place at Worlds, we are thankful for the opportunity to compete at that level and learned what we need to do moving forward," said teacher Joe Moseley.

5TH GRADE FUNDRAISER



As part of a lesson in Global Perspectives, Fifth Grade students were challenged to find a problem affecting their local community and figure out a way to help or solve the problem. Two students saw an urgent need for pet food at a local shelter and held a pet food drive, collecting over 300 pounds of food for the Human Society.



DID YOU KNOW?

America has an estimated 14,000 Animal Rescue Organizations.

(Source: npr.org)

SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS

It was another amazing year for Cornerstone's Middle School Students at the Big Springs Regional and Florida State Science Fairs.

Fourteen students competed at the Big Springs Regional Science Fair in January. Projects included entries in microbiology, chemistry, physics, biomedical, and environmental engineering. Five students received special awards and four, all Eighth Grade students, moved on to the state

competition.

The Florida State Science Fair was held in March and all four Cornerstone students who attended received awards for their projects with two projects placing. Delaney Peterson received 2nd place for her project about power generation using solar power along Florida's Turnpike. Ryan Glatter-Gotz received 4th place for his project about distinguishing AI and human authored text.



COMMUNITY HELPERS VISIT



During Community Helpers Week, students in Preschool and Junior Kindergarten learned all about the first responders who serve our community. At the end of the week, students received a visit from our local firefighters who gave a demonstration on their protective gear, the equipment they use, and what the students should do if they are ever caught in a fire. The visit concluded with a tour of a real fire truck and a ring of the siren.



CARNIVAL GAMES

After completing a math unit on probability, Eighth Grade students were split into teams and challenged to create a carnival-type game that didn't already exist. Teams were given three weeks to draw a diagram of their game and create game rules and prize levels. Then, each team had to calculate the probability of winning each prize level. After the games were constructed, Third Grade students were invited to the "carnival" to play the games. While the Third Graders played, the Eighth Graders noted the prizes won. The next day, students calculated the experimental probability and compared it to theoretical probability and how sometimes it comes down to pure luck.



Yousef, Laine, and Kinser rehearse their lines. Students practiced for several weeks before the final performance.

AND THE DISH RAN AWAY

Third Grade's Fictional Narrative unit brought a new challenge for students...putting on a live performance from first read to final bow.

After choosing "And the Dish Ran Away with the Spoon," a one-act play based on the classic nursery rhyme, everyone got to work. Acting parts were assigned and students began memorizing lines and learning blocking. Costumes and props were coordinated and scenery was painted. "They learned the details necessary for putting on a performance such as cooperation and communication. Everyone had to come together to make the show a success," said Third Grade Teacher Stevie Andrews.

Students practiced for two months before the scheduled final performance. On a warm afternoon in March, the time had finally come. Parents and family gathered in the Third Grade classroom to watch the students perform. "They were so proud of themselves and their fellow classmates," said Andrews. "It was a great accomplishment, and brought us closer together as a classroom community."



MY BUDDY AND ME

The Buddy Program paired First and Seventh Grade students together for several activities throughout the year.

Aimed at promoting teamwork, communication skills, and building community, the Buddy Program brought together First and Seventh Graders for some one-on-one activities. Each week, Seventh Grade students would travel to the First Grade classroom and help their buddies with a series of projects carefully crafted by First Grade Teacher Chelsea Crabtree. Projects included sorting exercises, putting together lapbooks, and building a festive log cabin for the holidays.

"The impact of the Buddy and Me program extended beyond the classroom walls," said Middle School Teacher Jennie Kattleman. "Both groups had the opportunity to learn from one another, building lasting connections along the way."

With some help from Middle School Language Arts Teacher John Wise, Seventh Grade students surprised their buddies with age-appropriate comic books they had created based on their Greek mythology unit. "I love my book and my buddy," said First Grader Inez.



DID YOU KNOW?

The protégé effect occurs when someone demonstrates greater effort to learn material because they're going to teach that information to someone else. *(Source: Ausmed.com)*

WAX MUSEUM

History came alive when famous figures both past and present made an appearance at the Living Wax Museum.

Students in Mrs. Strait's Fourth and Fifth Grade classes presented their Wax Museum projects to the delight of students, faculty, and families. Each project detailed the life of a real person, living or deceased, and their impact on their profession and society. Students then transformed their person and gave a short speech to museum visitors.



Jim Henson and his famous Muppet Kermit the Frog.



Artist Frida Kahlo is best known for her self portraits.



Comic book artist and editor Stan Lee helped create the Marvel Universe.

INVEST IN THEIR FUTURE. INVEST IN *Cornerstone.*

Cultivate Knowledge ▶ Inspire Leadership ▶ Build a Community

The Cornerstone Annual Fund ensures that The Cornerstone School maintains its reputation of offering an unprecedented educational experience to all its students by providing financial assistance to classroom technology, school security, and several programs including Project Lead the Way, Physical Education, Art, Music and STEM.

Every gift of every size makes a difference. Join us in our mission to prepare the next generation of students for success by making a donation to The Cornerstone School Annual Fund by visiting our website at thecornerstoneschool.org or by scanning the QR code today!



Annual Fund

