



PREP SCHOOL WEEKLY REPORT

SCHOOL YEAR 2019-20

Week 18 ~ 6 December 2019

Students: 731

3 rd = 40	6 th = 92	9 th = 96
4 th = 53	7 th = 87	10 th = 70
5 th = 57	8 th = 98	11 th = 83
		12 th = 55

Faculty/Staff: 67

Full Time Faculty = 54
Part Time Faculty = 4
Staff = 9

Knights, Treasure Hunts, and Jousting – 7th grade English students (MAJ Linda Evans) finished reading the novel, *Freak the Mighty*, and were challenged to “escape” the unit with a fun escape room activity. They were randomly assigned to different working groups. The students in each group had to use problem solving skills and work together to answer challenging questions based on the following aspects of the novel: plot, vocabulary, literary analysis, and characters. The characters of the novel enjoyed treasure hunts; therefore, after all clues were discovered, the top finishing groups had to go on a “treasure hunt” to find a few of the “treasures” of our school and tell them how much we depend on them and appreciate them, just like the characters of our book depended on each other. In the novel, a boy dreams of being a knight so the novel study ended with a very special activity – our 7th graders attended Medieval Times. The students watched jousting and other activities associated with the Medieval era. The students learned more about the Knight’s Code along with bullying and cyber bullying. The instruction and show was accompanied by a delicious meal of dragon tails (chicken), dragon ears (corn), dragon scales (bread) and Medieval fries (1/2 baked potato).

AP Calc Projects and Professors – AP Calculus students (MAJ Alisha Rochon) were challenged to show their Unit Circle knowledge and creativity by completing a 3D model of the Unit Circle. While this topic is taught in PreCalculus, mastery of it is essential to the study of Calculus so the project served as a way to review and apply the concept. The students submitted final products ranging from a solar system with the sun as the Unit Circle to a snowman made of Styrofoam that comes apart to reveal the Unit Circle to the ying-yang symbol to the flag of Nepal with the sun as the Unit circle. These students also recently had a special visitor as Dr. Domingue, astrophysics professor at Georgia College and father of 9th grader Lyra, spoke to the class as a part of Georgia College’s Project ASTRO – an initiative that works with schools in the middle Georgia region to inspire students to pursue degrees and careers in STEM areas.

Cyber Monday & Smarter Consumers – 9th graders in Freshman Focus (MAJ Jennifer Brown) concluded their history of technology unit last week and did some Cyber Monday shopping! Each student was tasked with shopping for a gaming, personal, and business computer with the goal of finding the best deal when considering RAM size and the type and size of the Hard Drive. They also had to examine what operating system they liked best and read reviews of models to be a more informed consumer. Parents are being warned that this activity may lead to another item added to their student’s wish list!

News from 5th grade – 5th graders have explored Winter Celebrations around the world as part of MAJ Bailey Smith’s Social Studies class. To date, students enjoyed learning about traditions in the countries of Poland, Greece, Mexico, Sweden and Germany. Did you know that children in Poland typically celebrate the Festival of the Star? Once the first star is seen on a particular night, the children run and tell their parents and the celebration begins! The celebration includes a large feast and the singing of carols. Students worked to make special star ornament that will be sent to our Soldiers who will be missing the Holiday season with their families. The Holiday theme continued in Math class (MAJ Diane Deariso) as students are reviewing math concepts from this semester and began preparing for the study of fractions next semester. Students rotated through various learning centers including Order of Operations, Plotting Coordinate Points, Prime and Composite Numbers, and Factors and Multiples. The favorite center was Prime Factorization where students applied their knowledge using a factor “tree” approach.

Learning from History – 8th grade Georgia History classes (LTC Scott Seagraves) spent some time reading and analyzing Alexander H. Stephens’ anti-secession speech from November 14, 1860. Using tools provided by the National Archives, students were able to examine Mr. Stephens’ speech and understand why not all Georgians were in favor of secession. The most interesting find was how pertinent much of his words regarding Abraham Lincoln and the 1860 election are to today’s world.

Spreading Holiday Cheer – Members of the Junior American Legion Auxiliary (JALA) along with their sponsor, MAJ Stephanie Roberts, visited the Georgia War Veterans Home to spread some cheer while working in the Gift Shop. The JALA girls wheeled and escorted veterans to the gift shop, assisted them with their shopping, and wrapped presents for the friends and families of veterans. The girls also selected gifts for those veterans who were unable to visit the gift shop. You will find it as no surprise that the smiles and joy were on the part of both groups – our girls and our veterans!

From PS Bulldog Softball to JUCO Bulldog Softball – Congratulations to Whitley Ward who signed on Tuesday to continue her softball career with Georgia Military College!! Whitley is the first Prep School softball player to sign to play college ball here at the JUCO. Whitley was a four year starter on the softball team and during her four years of high school she was part of a region championship and state runner up in 2016, region runner up and 4th place in the state in 2017, and capped it all off with a top 5 state finish in 2019. Whitley also earned All-Region honors all four years of high school and All-State honors in 2016 and 2019. We are extremely proud of Whitley and cannot wait to see her play at the next level with the College Bulldogs!

Surprise—You’re Accepted!! On Thursday, a representative and the mascot from Augusta University made a surprise visit to our campus to hand deliver 16 acceptance letters to members of our Senior class! The students were SO excited and celebrated by taking selfies with Augustus, the Jaguar Mascot!

“Holiday Magic! The Perfect Gift” – Whether it was one’s first time attending our Fine Arts Department’s Winter Gala or one has been attending since the event began, no one can deny that the annual event is the perfect way to kick off the season. Over 400 students in grades 3-12

performed for a crowd of over 1200 family members and friends. The evening's festivities included an Art Exhibit in the Legislative Chamber and an original staged presentation on the steps of the Old Capitol Building and Grant Parade.

- ❖ Our Art Exhibit showcased the talents of over 200 students who were enrolled in our 1st Semester Art classes in grades 6-12 along with members of the Middle and High School Art Clubs. As the crowd entered the Chamber, they were amazed by over 650 displays of art created by 175 students in grades 6-12 and 150 students in 3-5. We are proud to announce that Gweneth Smith had the most awards for the Middle School and Jessica Edwards had the most for High School. Jessica Edwards won the overall Best in Show award!
- ❖ Our original stage production was a wonderful time filled with singing, dancing, music, and laughter combined in a perfect fashion to put everyone in the holiday spirit. Over 400 students from our Elementary Musical Theatre program, Middle School Musical Theatre program, High School One Act Cast, Senior Musical Theatre Class, and High School Band participated in the event which featured a heartwarming story created by our Seniors.

Navigate the Climb: Leadership for Life's Journey – The Prep School was thrilled to welcome back Major General (retired) Maria Britt who served as Commanding General to Georgia's 11,000 Army National Guard soldiers from 2007-2011. General Britt had lunch with a group of cadets who are interested in serving our Country and then she spoke to all of our female cadets in grades 9-12. General Britt is a true servant leader and our students were so blessed to hear her words of wisdom and the leadership lessons she has learned during her 28 year career that spanned both active duty and Guard service.