

## Cobb Middle School Spelling Bee

The 2015 Cobb Spelling Bee was a roaring success. Around twenty classroom spelling champions met in the Cobb media center on Wednesday, December 2nd for six rounds of spelling competition. After just under two hours of spelling, John Urbach came out on top.

In second place was Lauren Zhu, and Demetris Kenon took third place.

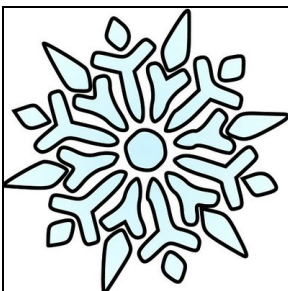
John Urbach will go on to represent Cobb in the Leon County Spelling Bee at Leon High School on Tuesday, January 12th. Congratulations, John!



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Winter Break: 12/21-1/4



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The holiday season has arrived! The faculty and staff of Elizabeth Cobb Middle School would like to wish each of you a safe, healthy, and HAPPY holiday season! Please take this opportunity to relax and enjoy some special times with family and friends during the season.

Friday, December 18, 2015, completes the first semester and I am extremely proud of the hard work that our students, teachers, and parents have demonstrated during the first half of the school-year. Thanks to our teachers who continue their hard work challenging our students to strive for scholastic excellence. Congratulations to the students who diligently prepared and participated in the Science Fair, Tropicana Speech Contest, Spelling

Bee, Chiles Mini Mu, MagLab, Field-day, and Band, Orchestra, Chorus, and Drama performances. Equally, I'd like to say thanks to parents and community members who have also been instrumental in supporting our students, faculty, and staff; we sincerely appreciate your valuable input.



The start of the second semester presents our students with an opportunity to reflect on their progress this year and for parents to help their student to set goals for the remainder of the school year. Research has shown that people who set goals (and use them effectively) not

only perform better, but suffer from less stress and anxiety and are happier and more satisfied with life. Middle school students need an opportunity to develop knowledge and skills to help them make appropriate decisions, have the confidence to take risks, and be flexible and adaptable when faced with change and life transitions. They also need to establish good work and study habits, to manage their time wisely, and to be able to set short and long range educational and career goals. Goal setting helps Cobb students to be "Excellent on Purpose"!

We wish that everyone enjoys this much deserved break and look forward to the students' return to school in the New Year on January 5, 2016.

~ Mrs. Fitzgerald

## Tropicana Speech



From a field of nine winning speeches, our guest Tropicana Speech judges narrowed it down to three top speakers. Cobb's champion for 2015 is Indya Lincione with her speech "Orcas in Captivity." Taking second place was Megan Henry and her speech, "The Dress Code Needs to Be Changed." In a very close third place was Maranda Dugans with her speech titled, "McDonald's Should Be Banned."

All of the speakers did an excellent job and should feel proud. Indya will go on to represent Cobb at the county-wide competition at FAMU on January 30th. Congratulations Indya!

## Winter Tryouts



Tryouts for both boys' basketball and girls' soccer will take place on January 5, 2016. Coach Kendall Randolph will coach the boys' team and Coach Jennifer Godwin and Coach Adam Rice will be the coaches for the girls' team. Please visit the school's website for more information about tryouts.



## Chorus News

Cobb Middle School chorus students have been working diligently on some new, challenging music this semester. Some of our semester highlights include an outstanding performance by the Choraliers at the Historic Capitol on December 3 and the Chorus Winter Concert in the Cobb Middle School gym, on December 8. We are excited to start some new music after winter break. Stay tuned for our spring performances!



## Winter Theater News



We have officially wrapped up our first round of performances for 2015-2016! Theatre HS started us off with *An Evening of Agatha*, three mysteries in the "who dunnit?" style. Theatre 2 followed suit with *Happily Ever After*, a compilation of fairy tales to entertain families and Kate Sullivan students. Not to be outdone, fifty four Theatre 1 students performed a series of monologues comprising the show *Popular*. I am so pleased with all of them and can't wait for the next step, the Playwriting Festival!

The next nine weeks will be just as busy with the last auditions for the school musical, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, visits from Southern Shakespeare Company, Tech Night at Leon high school, 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Playwriting Festival\*, State Thespian Festival for Jr. Thespians, field trip opportunities to FSU, TCC and Godby HS, and a twelve-hour playwriting/production Theatre lock-in! If you are interested in volunteering or chaperoning for any event, please let me know – I love parent volunteers!

If you are not already a member of any of the Theatre text messaging services, it's not too late! Text the following codes to 81010.

Theatre 1: @05725  
Theatre 2: @46f7e  
Theatre HS: @theatrehs  
Jr. Thespians: @jrthes

**\*Please note that Theatre 2 and HS have a date change for their Playwriting Festival: Feb. 22, 2016.**

Auditions for the all-school musical are approaching!

January 11-14 2016

Visit Mrs. Meis' webpage for information

## Sixth Grade

The sixth grade team has been on a roll the first semester! Students have participated in the Tropicana Speech Contest, spelling bee, and fall and winter sports. Also, students have excelled in the fine arts. The winter performances were amazing. Keep up the fantastic job, 6th grade! Here are a few tips to help you as we approach the 2nd semester and upcoming testing:

\* Check your child's agenda book every Monday to see what assignments are in store for the week.

\* Log into Parent Portal to moni-

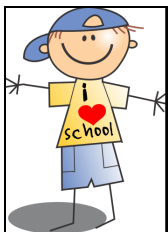
tor your child's progress.

\* Do not procrastinate. Get your assignments done early. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your child's teachers. Field Trip Update: The 6th grade trip will be to Disney's Epcot! The cost is \$145. Continue to submit monies to Mrs. Laing, Room 1.

The sixth grade teachers have been doing an amazing job this nine weeks in the classroom. In language arts, the students have been working through the Unit, "Make Your Voice Heard" from their Florida Collections curriculum. The students have been continuing to learn how to cite tex-

tual evidence and how to write argumentative essays. In the science department, students are learning about living things. Students have learned how to use microscopes and how to conduct scientific inquiries. The STEM Fair will be January 8, 2016. Student work from each science class will be displayed. Students in world history classes are preparing for the upcoming History Fair. Be sure to check your child's agenda for History Fair due dates. And finally, congratulations to the students that participated in the Chiles Mini Mu Competition on December 12! All students had a wonderful time. Way to go, Cobb Cubs!

## Seventh Grade



The seventh grade class has had a great second nine weeks to end the first semester of the school year. Let's take a peek into some of our wonderful teachers' classrooms in the seventh grade. In Mrs. Davis's math classes, they have been preparing for midterms, focusing heavily on solving proportions. They are beginning to

work on geometry and using formulas to calculate area and volume. In Mrs. Sparks's reading class, they have taken their mid-year Achieve 3000 Lexile test and have made tremendous gains. They are continuing to improve their reading and writing skills through multiple genres of text. They are excited about the growth they have made and look forward to even more success. Congratulations to the Lexile High Rollers VIP Club! Ms. Jackson's Math II Advanced classes have been recently working on the art of geometry. The students now know how to find the area and

the circumference for circles. They have also learned how to find the area of composite figures. When they return from the holiday break, they will dive a little deeper into the world of geometry by finding the volume of three-dimensional objects.

We look forward to the start of the second semester in January after a well-deserved holiday break.

## Eighth Grade

The eighth graders at Cobb Middle School are having a fantastic nine weeks! The Science Fair and Spelling Bee, not to mention all of our fine arts performances, math competitions, and sporting events

have kept us quite busy. The language arts department has focused primarily on informative/informational writing this term, encouraging our students to think and write like teachers, and we have been learning about the Revolutionary War in social studies. We all loved Cobb's first Field

Day, where we (naturally) dominated the 6th and 7th grade competition. It has been a terrific first half of the year at Cobb, possibly our best ever. We're all looking forward to finishing the year strong!



# 2016 Winter Sports Calendar



January 19: Soccer vs. Griffin

January 20: Basketball vs. Griffin

January 21: Soccer vs. Ft Braden

January 25: Basketball vs. Ft Braden

January 25: Soccer vs. Montfort

January 26: Soccer vs. Raa

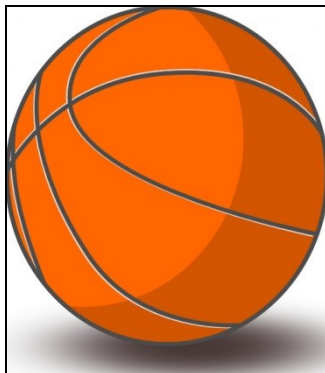
January 27: Basketball vs. Raa

February 3: Basketball vs. Swift Creek

February 3: Soccer vs. Swift Creek

February 4: Soccer vs. Nims

February 8: Basketball vs. Nims







# Cub Claws



www.cobb.leon.k12.fl.us

*An A+ School*

December 2015

## A Snapshot into the 2015 Cobb Middle Winter Sports Program



### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 16-18 Midterms/Early Release  
 December 21-January 4 Winter Break  
 January 4 Teacher Planning Day  
 January 5 Students Return  
 January 8 STEM Fair  
 January 13 Report Cards #2 Go Home  
 January 18 MLK Day—No School  
 February 3 Progress Reports #3  
 February 6 Cobb Mini Mu  
 March 11 End of 3rd Nine Weeks  
 March 14-18 Spring Break  
 March 21 Teacher Planning Day

The next issue of the Cub Claws will be uploaded in the spring.

“No person shall on the basis of gender, marital status, sexual orientation, race, religion, national origin, age, color, pregnancy or disability be denied employment, receipt of services, access to or participation in school activities or programs if qualified to receive such services, or otherwise be discriminated against or placed in a hostile environment in any educational program or activity including those receiving federal financial assistance, except as provided by law.” No person shall deny equal access or a fair opportunity to meet to, or discriminate against, any group officially affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America, or any other youth group listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society.

An employee, student, parent or applicant alleging discrimination with respect to employment, or any educational program or activity may contact:

Dr. Kathleen Rodgers, Equity Coordinator and Title IX Compliance Officer

2757 West Pensacola Street -Tallahassee, Florida 32304—(850) 487-7306- [rodgersk@leonschools.net](mailto:rodgersk@leonschools.net)

A student or parent alleging discrimination as it relates to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act may contact:

Dr. Alan Cox, 504 Specialist

2757 West Pensacola Street -Tallahassee, Florida 32304- (850)487-7190 -[coxa@leonschools.net](mailto:coxa@leonschools.net)