



Executive Coaching Star



Coach Johnson uses a hands-on approach to reach Explorer campers in Math at Hall-Woodward Elementary, see story on Page 3.



Yes, it's Fun, Fun, Fun! Explorers at Konnoak sing and dance after fueling up at their Breakfast of Champions, see Page 2.



Coach Shenece French gives her students Guided Practice during a lesson on Place Value at North Hills, see Page 5.

July 24, 2014

Priceless

Winston-Salem, N.C.

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Explorers Camp coaching model sealed the deal

Title I administrator says federal funds provide relief for parents



Patsy Squire with Explorer campers at Hall-Woodward Elementary School.

By Sam Davis
Executive Coaching Star

The Explorers Camp, which is being offered at 10 different sites in the Winston-Salem/ Forsyth County School system this summer, is helping to fill a growing need of parents and students this summer. The camp, is providing enrichment activities for first and second grade students from 22 Title I schools in the district.

The camp provides a healthy and safe environment for students each day, along with breakfast, lunch and enrichment activities, at no cost to parents.

Title I schools are those in which at least 50 percent of the

parents of the students fall below the poverty level. The camp is offered to all students who attend those schools. It is being funded by Title I Funds, which come from the federal government. Of the 81 schools

in the district, 45 received Title I funding in 2013-14.

Patsy Squire is the director of the Title I program in Forsyth County. Squire said Executive

“Executive Coaching offered a coaching model that would help the campers become better students and enjoy learning in the process.”

- Patsy Squire

Coaching Enterprises was chosen to deliver services in its camp because it met all of the school system's criteria.

“What we liked about Executive Coaching was the fact that they offered a different model,” she said.

“Executive Coaching offered a coaching model that would help the campers become

see Squire on 8

Konnoak Elementary: Pack your bags, get a passport to the world

By Sam Davis
Executive Coaching Star

From the time you enter the Explorers' Hall at Konnoak Elementary you get a taste of the aroma that the coaches at the school are cooking up this summer.

Campers were being fed a steady diet of culture from China last week. With the help of Coach Xing, a native of China,



Coach Xing

the students learned to write numbers and alphabets in Mandarin, the language that is spoken in most parts of China. Mandarin was integrated into the students' reading passages and the campers enjoyed the special input that was given to them by Coach Xing.

The culminating activity was a Chinese snack with chopsticks. The students really enjoyed the

see Konnoak on 2



The halls of Konnoak Elementary are chock full of culture and arts from China. Coach Xing helped students spell out words in Mandarin and also helped them with creating art found in China.



Love for children gives Bryant her drive, daily

By Sam Davis
Executive Coaching Star

Kathryn Bryant's days are usually long, demanding and fulfilling. Bryant, an assistant principal at Bolton Elementary during the regular school year, is spending time this summer working at Konnoak Elementary as the "chief problem-solver" for the Explorer's Camp. It is a labor of love. "Being on site with this program, I am really a contact between the Explorers Camp and the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School system," she said. "I am here to support the stu-



Kathryn Bryant dents, parents, and coaches in the program. I answer questions that parents have, make sure there are no issues with transportation and handle any behaviors that might come up during

see Bryant on 2

Parent Empowered!

To the staff of the summer enrichment program and all those involved or who have an influence over the program. My name is Kevin Watkins and I am the father of Kayla and Kevin Watkins Jr. After observing Coach Littlejohn on Tuesday along with the rest of the coaches,

I just want to take time to say thank you all for your level of energy and interest in the children. I think your morning pep rallies are a great idea and believe children need to hear their self-worth daily. I love the energy Coach

Littlejohn puts off and the way the staff interacts along with her.

The message was powerful and I believe there are a lot of children who don't get the chance to hear that they are winners enough, if not at all.

You all have let them know they are being rewarded and not punished while teaching them at the same time. My children have come each day excited and ready for the next day this week. So I want to say thank you and you all are much appreciated.

Sincerely,
Kevin Watkins

Coach Hicks: 'Never seen anything like it'

34-Year veteran says students have a rare opportunity



Coach Hicks

excited and looks forward to the challenge of leading a class of Explorers this summer.

"I am really looking forward to having the kids on Monday," she said. "The opportunities that these children are being offered are tremendous. Hopefully they will take it with them when they return to school in August."

Pam Hicks has been teaching children for 34 years. However, she says she has never seen anything like the Explorers Camp, which is being offered for children in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School Title I schools. Hicks, who teaches at Ibraham Elementary, said the camp should help elevate the level of achievement for children enrolled in the camp. Hicks said she is

Konnoak

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snack, which consisted of Sesame Chicken, Fried Rice and a Fortune Cookie. Each student also received a



Coach Bangweni

place mat with their order.

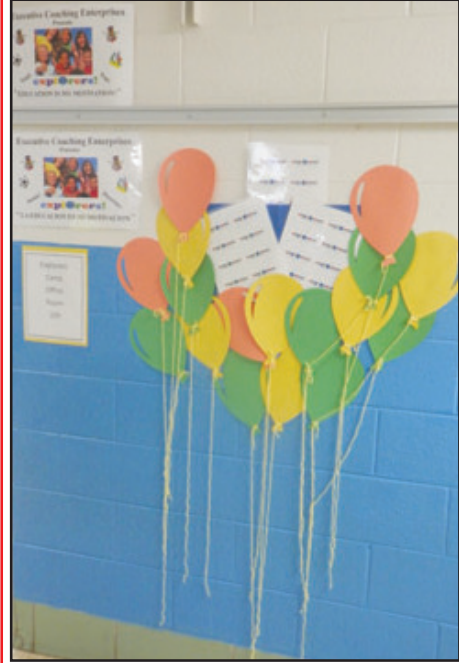
This week the students will move on to study art and culture from South Africa. Konnoak also has a coach from



Coach Blanco

that country working with the students at the Explorers Camp, Coach Bangweni, a South African native, will provide first-hand accounts of the culture and arts from South Africa.

Other key members of the coaching staff at Konnoak include Alease Cary, Kathy Bryant, Diana Tabor and Pat Holiday. Coach Cary will be helping the coaches and students make passports to document their travels around the world. Several of the coaches work at Konnoak during the regular school year and have forged a bond with the students. Coach Blanco, a native of Honduras, is the school's Spanish/English interpreter. She has been called upon to interpret at parent meetings and make phone calls.

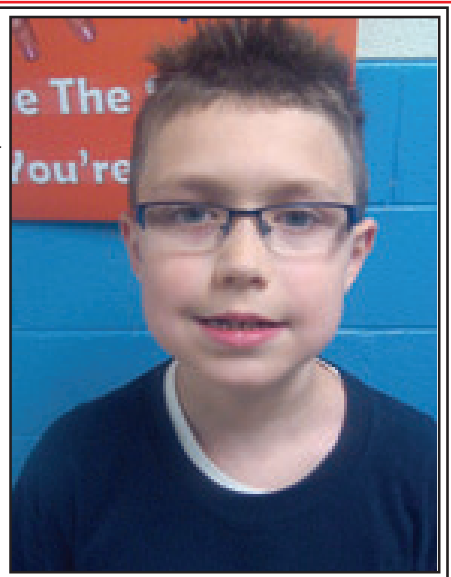


Caleb Clark gets excited every day

A certain level of excitement is achieved each day that Caleb Clark attends the Explorers Camp at Konnoak Elementary School.

"I am excited every time I come," Clark said. "There are a lot of fun things going on here and I really like being here every day. The coaches work with the students."

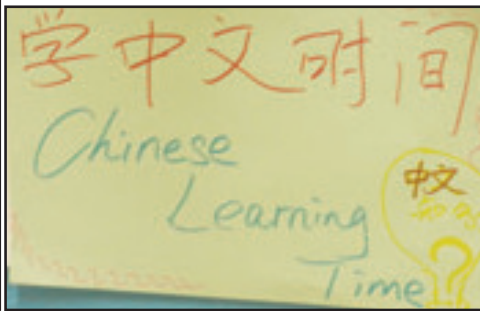
Caleb said th most interesting thing that he has done is write Mandarin words, signs and letters.



Caleb Clark



The halls at Konnoak Elementary are decorated with signs, arts and other cultural items found in China. The students made all of the items with the help of Coach Xing.



Explorers get fueled up at 'Breakfast of Champions'

Gathering is followed by music and movement to get hyped for the day's academic lessons

By Sam Davis
Executive Coaching Stars

Campers participating in the Explorers program at Konnoak Elementary fuel up each morning at the "Breakfast of Champions". The breakfast gives them a chance to charge up their bodies with the energy to get through the first half of their day.

Once they have fueled up, they head to the school's gym to burn off a

little energy and get pumped up for the day's activities. Once in the gym, they are joined by the coaches who spent time last week learning the movements for a choreographed dance that was taught to them by Coach Angelica Manigault. Students and coaches strut their stuff during the dance movement - gyrating to the music and words of Pharrell Williams' "Happy".

Once they've gotten that out of their system, it is off to class for a full day of learning and exposure.



Bryant

from Page 1

the day. I try to be up front every morning when the students arrive and when they leave in the afternoon." Bryant said she can already see the benefits of the Explorers Camp.

"I really like it," she said. "It extends the year for the students, but it makes learning fun. The Explorer Camp operates on the premise that here is education - but you can have fun learning. Anytime we can create a positive learning experience for the students, that is a step in the right direction."

At Bolton, which is a Title I school, Bryant said she sees many problems that affect the parents of her student population. Enrichment

programs like the Explorers Camp help to solve them.

"This program gives working parents more options," she said. "It provides good knowledge to the

"I am one of those people who absolutely loves what I do," she said. "I love children and I get to work with them every day. I also get to work with adults as an administrator."

- Kathryn Bryant

students, it provides food for them and it also a safe place for them."

Bryant said it gives her a great deal of joy to

work in an administrative capacity in the Explorers Camp. Before accepting her current position at Bolton, she served on the staff of the Title I program in the county office, working alongside Patsy Squire, program director.

"I am one of those people who absolutely loves what I do," she said. "I love children and I get to work with them every day. I also get to work with adults as an administrator."

"I look forward to working with teachers and parents to provide services for the educational needs of the children," she added. "I am very fortunate to work in this program because I can see how it is impacting the lives of the children. This can provide a lifelong learning experience for them."

Coach Miriam Mayhew enjoys breakfast of champions with Daniel Wilson (above left). (Right) Lennay Santiago talks with Melanie Alonso. Coaches (below) dance along with the students. It is part of the coaching model that Executive Coaching Enterprises promotes in its enrichment programs.



Hall-Woodward Explorers ready to take a long flight

Camp take students on a jet ride to known destinations - China, South Africa and Mexico

By Sam Davis
Executive Coaching Star

The Explorers Camp makes a special effort to give their campers a comprehensive world view. Coaches incorporate information from China, Mexico and South America into their lesson plans and their rooms and hallways are filled with art from those countries



as well as others. Coach McCarthy and Coach Fordham, who hosted the biggest class at Hall-Woodward, spent a big part of their day presenting a math lesson on Rounding to the Nearest Ten. Coach McCarthy used the whiteboard to give the students a vivid illustration of whether to go to the next 10 or go back to the previous 10. Coach McCarthy drew a pic-

ture of a burning bridge on the board. She then gave the students a number - 84. She said the numbers the students were working with on one end of the bridge was 80 and at the other end of the bridge was 90. She then asked a student to place logs on the bridge to represent each step he would have to take to make it from 80 to 90. She then told the student that he would stand on 84 and asked "if they bridge is falling down, which way he would run to get off of it". "Are you going to go all the way across the bridge, or you going

to go back?", she asked. The students said the end at 80 would be shortest and they therefore would run to that end to escape. Coach McCarthy then gave more numbers for the students to round to the nearest 10. She concluded the lesson by asking the students if they felt comfortable rounding. All of them responded by raising their hands.



Coach McCarthy (top) shows where the students are on the bridge and asks them whether to go across or go back. Next, posters, charts and graphics along the hallway of Hall-Woodward Elementary. Coach McCarthy (left) works with her students in the classroom.

Linking Up In Pairs!



Hands-on approach is key

By Sam Davis
Executive Coaching Star

Coach Smith and Coach Norwood presented a great hands-on activity for the students to understand odd and even numbers. After introducing the lesson, they called all of the students to the carpet. Coach Smith asked each student to link one arm with a classmate.

After each student linked with another, she asked the students to count how many pairs of students were in the group. They concluded that there were eight groups of two students in the classroom. Coach Smith said that no one was

left alone and that fact proved that an even number of students were currently in the classroom. She makes mention of a student who is not present on that particular day. She asks the students if another student was present, if that would make the number of students in the class odd, since she would not be able to be paired with anyone.

Coach Smith concluded the lesson by asking the students to count by two's, then five's and then 10's. The students were eager to count and they all chimed in to it in rhythm, counting by two to 20, by five to 50 and by 10 to 100 - 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100.



'It's just the way we write numbers!'

Coach Johnson (left, and above) begins a lesson on Place Value. Coach Norwood and Coach Smith (top left) pair the students as they teach a lesson on distinguishing between odd and even numbers. Students (bottom right) draw a Venn diagram during a lesson on Comparing and Contrasting.



Coaches at Hall-Wood allow prompt students to get creative juices flowing.

Happy Explorers = happy learners

Explorers at Kernersville Elementary were rocking to the beat

last week as they learned the dance moves to go along with the words to Pharrell

Williams' "Happy". Campers gathered in the gym and were putting all the movements together in preparation for the Explorers' culminating event, which will be held on July 31, the last day of the camp.

With the coaches leading the way, the campers had a lot of fun being creative as they put their own individual spins on the choreographed movements. Kernersville has one of the largest turnouts for the camp, being run by Executive Coaching Enterprises.



Explorers (above) try to master the movements of the dance routine as coaches lead the way. The walls in the hallway are decorated appropriately for the camp. At right Coach Mary Beth Barrett "raises the roof".

Repita por favor: 'I said a-boom, chick-a-boom'

Campers liven things up after lunch break

By Sam Davis
Executive Coaching Stars

After enjoying a nutritious and filling lunch, campers enjoyed an opportunity to participate in a student-driven activity. Ameerah Mendez, Damaris Gabriel and Yaselin Gnzalez led the Explorers in a sing-

along, in which they asked the other students to sing after them.

The brief entertainment helped get the campers ready to delve into the dance routine that accompanies "Happy", which the students will perform at the culminating event at the Explorers Camp

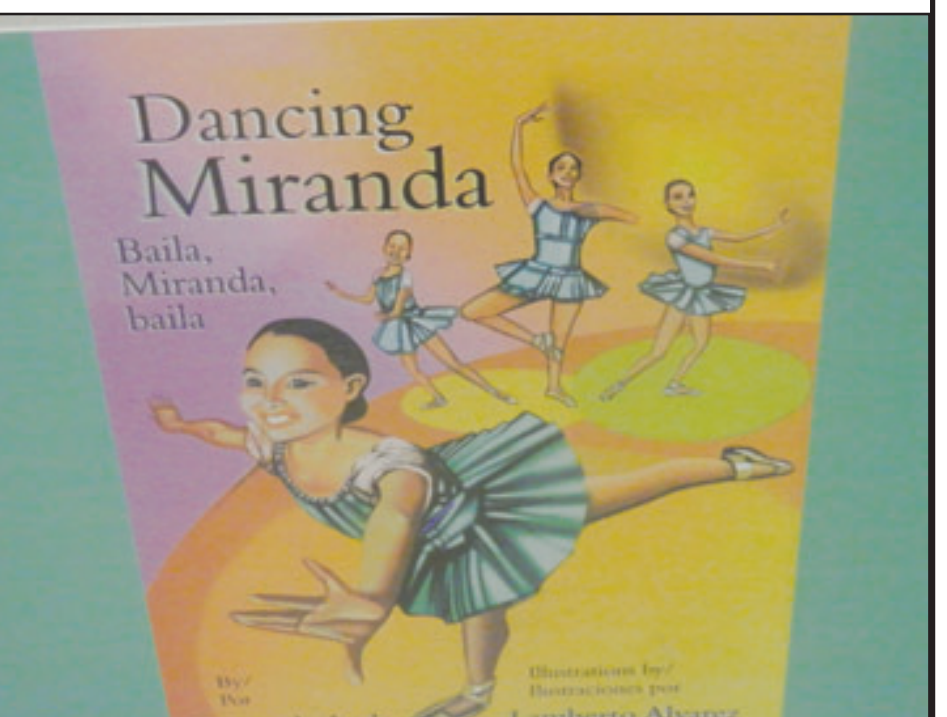
conclusion. Coaches and students joined together to put their moves in place for the dance.

In addition, Kernersville, like the other participating sites in Forsyth County, has the halls where Explorer classes are held, decorated with the themes of the camp.



Mood Setting!

Explorers Camp set the mood for its three-week camp by placing posters and artifacts from the countries that campers will study during the camp. Below left, a picture of the Great Wall of China is shown, along with Chinese Lanterns. Campers studied China during the first week. Below right, a ballerina is shown. A major emphasis on art and culture are included in the daily lesson plans at each of the 10 sites where the Explorers Camp is being held.





Let's Count: One's, 10's, 100's

Explorers get a heavy dose of Math at North Hills

By Sam Davis
Executive Coaching Star

Snack time at the Explorers Camp means receiving a quality, healthy, snack. Coach French handed out bananas to the campers in her class to give them energy midway through the morning session. Afterward, they got a healthy dose of instruction as they started by reviewing the math lesson from the previous day.

Reynolds finished up a passage that discussed Mandarin, the language spoken in China. The students then modeled a group of symbols that represented numbers and letters written in Mandarin.

Each student wrote the symbols on a sheet of construction paper, along with the corresponding numbers and letters from English. As they completed this exercise, the campers were called to the carpet where they used the Smart Board to dance to a song entitled "This is what the fox says".

Coach French assisted the students as they counted to 100, starting with 50. From there the campers counted to 50 by Five's and then to 100 by 10's. She then introduced the day's math lesson on Place Value. She briefly discussed Standard Form, Word Form and Expanded Form.

Following the first dance movement, the students had another movement to a continent song, in which they named all of the continents the Explorers are studying in the three-week camp, with special emphasis on Asia, Africa and North America.

Coach Martinez and Coach



Healthy Snack!

Manipulatives help tell the story

Straws and beans prove to be handy math tools

By Sam Davis
Executive Coaching Star

Coach Rivera and Coach Brown used a big cube to illustrate to their campers the concept of Place Value. They asked the students about the volume inside the cube. They used manipulatives, giving the campers hands-on instruction. They worked with One's, 10's and 100's.

with the answer – seven. Coach Rivera then reinforced their learning with several other examples.

Coach Richardson and Coach Clinton also used manipulatives in their lesson plans on Place Value. Students were given straws and beans and placed them on construction paper to construct numbers with 10's and One's.



Let's Move!

Coach Rivera gave the students the number 27. She then asked the students: "how many 10's does it take to make 20?". Several campers raised their hands before she called on one, who responded by saying it takes two 10's. After receiving that response, she asked them: "how many ones do we add to get 27?".

As a group they responded



Campers in Coach Rivera's class come to the carpet to prepare for the "Continent" song, which helps break the routine of sitting through a long lesson and gets them up and moving.



Concentration!

Getting Down to Serious Business!

Although the Explorers Camp stresses the need for campers to relax and have fun, campers also receive mediation in key academic areas, such as reading and math. Below students get serious about their studies and their coaches work with them to strengthen any areas that they might be deficient in.



Mineral Springs Explorers step at a lively pace

Exposure to music, cultural arts excites campers

By Sam Davis
Executive Coaching Star

Enthusiasm echoes through each classroom of the Explorers Camp at Mineral Springs Elementary. Popular music blares at the entrance of each classroom sporadically throughout the days as coaches emphasize students respond to music, cultural arts and movement.

The students have been eager to learn

and the coaches have been ready, willing and able to deliver instruction to the campers.

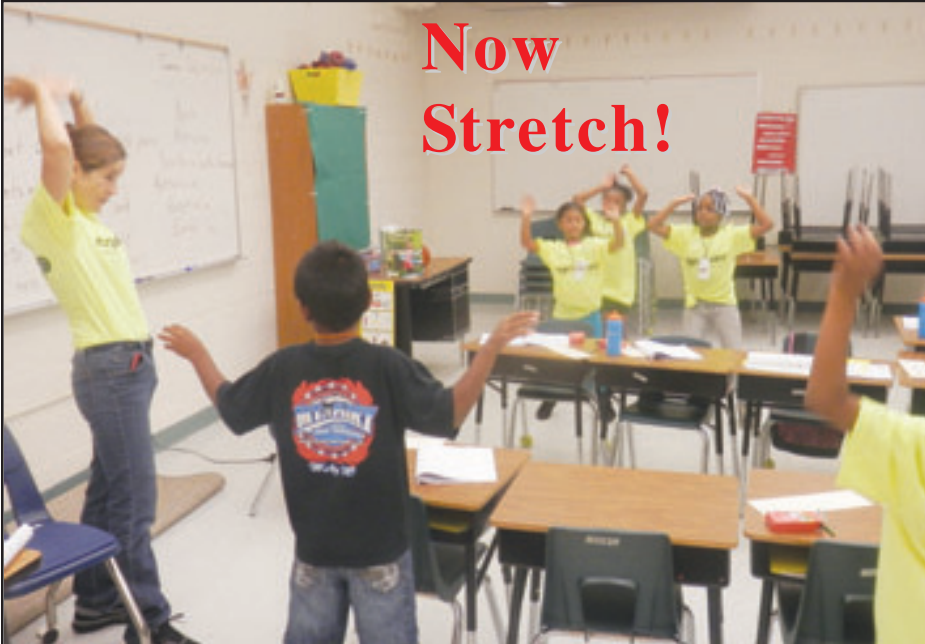
The executive team for the Explorers Camp have provided lesson plans for the coaches, who have followed them and each coach has interjected their own of delivery to get the message across to the eager campers.

Class size is relatively small, with a ration of 10-1, students to coaches. such that it allows each coach to

relate to the campers individually.

Since most coaches are placed at schools where they work during the regular school year, they are able to identify with the educational needs of the students.

The bonds that have been forged allow the coaches to relate to them in non-academic areas as well. So, when it comes down to having fun, the coaches know whom to call upon to get the action going.



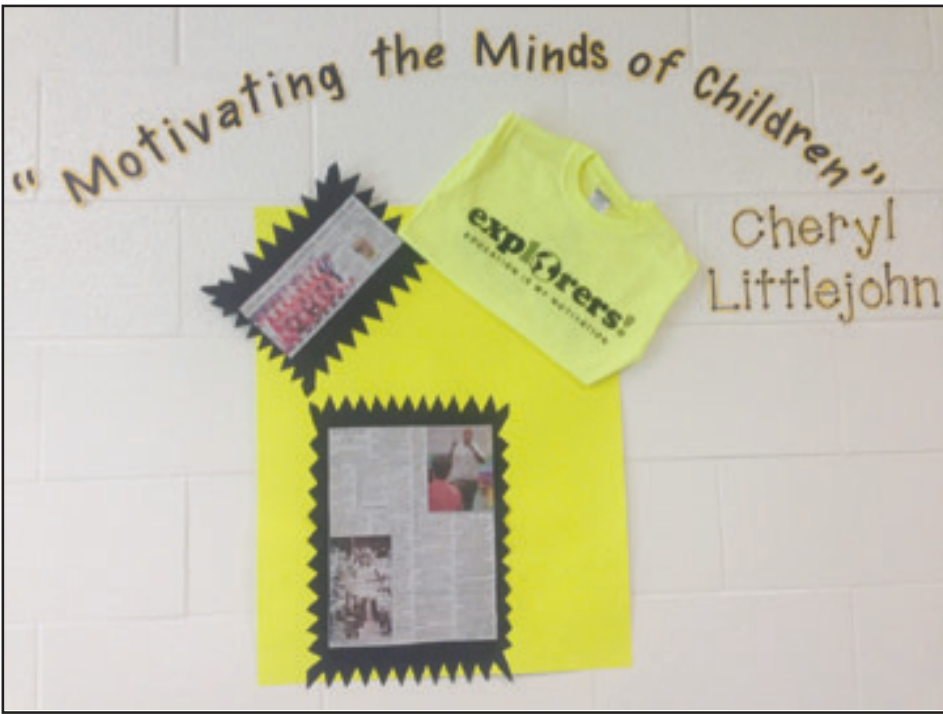
An Officer and Some Gentlemen!

Bobby Cuthbertson, police officer with the Winston-Salem Police department, stopped by Gibson Elementary to speak with coaches and students, recently.

A Special Treat for a Special Treat

Staff members of Peking Garden, former campers with Executive Coaching Enterprises, provided a Chinese snack for campers, who showed them their Chinese masks they made in class.





Coach has impacted Speas Elementary student greatly

Chiara Melendez says participating in camp is fun

By Sam Davis
Executive Coaching Star

Coach Sabbagh-Rabaiotti has influenced Chiara Melendez-Silva greatly since she began working with her in the Explorers Camp at Speas Elementary.

"She makes it fun," Melendez-Silva said. "Sometimes we can play and talk to friends and everybody likes that. I have enjoyed learning about different countries and getting to know the kind of food they eat there and the language they speak and the way they write."

Melendez-Silva said she also enjoys being part of Destiny Café.

"That is a whole lot of fun," she said. "You can sing and dance and you can meet new friends."

She also said Coach Sabbagh-Rabaiotti also does new and exciting things in the classroom.



Chiara Melendez-Silva

"We dance and have snacks in the classroom," she said.

"Sometimes we color maps and do fun things like dance with the Smart Board."



Huffin says camp is exciting

By Sam Davis
Executive Coaching Star

When Isaiah Holiday arrived at Speas Elementary for his first day of Explorers Camp he didn't know what to expect. He quickly found out that he would be in for a fun learning experience. He said the coaches have kept the students going and move quickly through their lessons while

injecting music, movement and art.

"I didn't realize I could have so much fun doing

"I didn't realize I could have so much fun doing math and reading. We get to go outside and we move around a lot. We're having fun in school - that is exciting."

- Isaiah Holiday

math and reading,"

said if he wasn't at the camp he would be at his dad's house playing his X-Box, eating and sleeping his summer away. Instead, he is constantly on the move - learning something new every day.

"I was really excited that we got to learn about Chinese numbers," he said. "It is neat the way you write them. It was fun learning how to do numbers in another language."

Destiny Café, which takes place after lunch each day, is the most fun of all the activities that Isaiah participates in every day.

"We get a chance to sing, dance and step it up," he said. "That's definitely the most fun part of the day. I have been able to make new friends and get together with students that go to school with me during the regular school year. The school part of it is fun too. I have really liked being here."



Isaiah Holiday

Isaiah said.

"We get to go outside and we move around a lot. We're having fun in school - that is exciting."

Isaiah said he's glad he was offered the opportunity to be a part of the camp this summer. He



Artistic Ability on Display!



Squire

from Page 1

better students and enjoy learning in the process. When we found out about the coaching model they offered we told them that safety was our major concern and we would like to have teacher assistance on every bus that provided transportation for our students. When I met with Les Canipe of Executive Coaching, he said that wasn't a problem.

"The second factor that worked in their favor was the fact that they had a street team that went door-to-door asking parents to allow their children to participate in the camp," Squire added. "They signed up more than 500 students that way."

"Another selling point for Executive Coaching Enterprises was the positive energy and enthusiasm they brought to the schools when they went out to meet with parents and teachers. They were able to get the students excited about what the program had to offer and the number of applications increased each time."

Squire said she has been pleased with the delivery of instruction at the camps. She came out to visit Hall-Woodward Elementary on Monday (July 21). Squire said she was pleased with the way things are going thus far in accomplishing its goal.

"We wanted to make sure these chil-

dren had their little minds stimulated this summer," Squire said. "We didn't want the students seated in rows and given worksheets. We wanted them to be actively engaged in learning with lots of hands-on activities by the teachers."

Originally, Squire said she wanted the program offered in the county to be for middle school students. However, after looking at the rising gap between end of grade tests between Title I and non-Title I program, the local school system decided to offer it to students who were enrolled in Title I schools in first and second grade during the 2013-14 school year.

"At first we wanted to provide a six-week enrichment program," she said. "However, federal funding would not allow it so we decided on a three-week program."

The Explorers Camp evolved from a discussion that Squire said she had with Dr. Beverly Emory, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County's first-year superintendent.

"What happened is I met with the superintendent in March and told her we had a carryover in

funds and we had to use those funds or lose them," Squire said. "During the meeting she asked me what would I like to do with them. It surprised me to an extent because usually the superintendent would tell me what we were going to do if we had additional funds. I said I would like to do an



Explorers campers at Hall-Woodward pose for a photo with Patsy Squire.

enrichment camp and it evolved from there."

Students who were not proficient on their tests,"

enrollment to 1,900.

"They would go to the school and have assemblies with the students and build the excitement of the students and teachers," Squire said. "They used motivational speeches to get the student excited. I like the fact that they used sports, with basketballs, footballs and soccer balls to get the students excited."

Squire said the challenge now is retaining all of the students who signed up. "We now have to make sure we have all the students who we signed up to come every day," she said. "We want every student who is supposed to be here to benefit from this program," but then said you know what we

Last week, Squire attended Gibson Elementary and each student and staff member were given a snack consisting of Chinese food, chopsticks, a fortune cookie and a place mat.

"Some children don't get an opportunity to eat Chinese food and the whole experience that comes along with it," Squire said. "The students were very excited to receive it."



Patsy Squire views a student's work at Hall-Woodward Elementary School.

Squire put out feelers to companies who provide enrichment programs. She also offered the opportunity to the Bell program, which is providing a program for the county's third and fourth graders from Title I schools. Bell, which had 1,600 students in its program, declined the opportunity opening up the doors for Executive Coaching Enterprises.

"We originally thought we would offer the program to only stu-

Squire said. "But after looking at the scores of the students at Title I schools we then said we would offer to all first and second grade students who attended Title I schools."

Once Executive Coaching Enterprises made its pitch, the deal was done. By June 3, more than 1,400 applications had been approved. That number added with the 500 students signed up by the organization's street team, boosted total

A Safe Ride Home!

Bianca Hunter rides Bus 292 to and from school with student from the Explorers Camp.



A Special Treat!

Explorers were treated to a Chinese Treat last Thursday. Peking Garden of Gastonia delivered a snack for all camp participants. The snack consisted of chicken, fried rice and fortune cookie. Peking Garden also provided the students a set of chopsticks and a mat.



Coach Cheryl Littlejohn

Coach Littlejohn: Let's Go Get It!

Program coaches must find a way to impact students positively

By Sam Davis
Executive Coaching Stars

It's time to put all the ideas and suggestions that you were exposed to during our workshop to good use. That's right. The children will arrive bright and early on Monday morning and you must bring the energy and enthusiasm necessary to captivate their young, eager minds.

They will come with

an abundance of energy and you as a professional need to have a plan of action.

"You have to get hyped for our babies," said Coach Cheryl Littlejohn, of Executive Coaching. "You have to get into character and at the end of three weeks you must

have had an impact. You have to inspire the minds of children who don't have hope. We have to transfer our spirit into the children. You have to create culture and atmosphere in your class-

rooms."

Littlejohn said the camp will open the minds of

the campers.

"We have to encourage people," she said. "We have 12 days to impact the students in a meaningful way. A lot of these children's hope is broken. We have to restore it. We have 12 days to lead them in a way that will impact their lives. When you motivate students that is temporary, but when you inspire someone it lasts a lifetime. I like to tell them if you can look up, you can get up!"

We have to transfer our spirit into the children. You have to create culture and atmosphere in your classrooms.

- Coach Littlejohn

Theme Song: 'Happy', By Pharrell Williams

Don't forget, the Explorers Camp is a fun camp. Coach Angelica Manigault devoted a lot of time to teaching all the coaches a Dance to accompany the song 'Happy' by Pharrell Williams. When students are stimulated, they learn much easier. So if your campers are getting a little sluggish, don't hesitate to pump up the volume and



Coach Manigault get them going! So as the words of Pharrell Williams suggests,

*"Because I'm happy, Clap along if you feel like a room without a roof
Because I'm happy, Clap along if you feel like happiness is the truth
Because I'm happy, Clap along if you know what happiness is to you
Because I'm happy, Clap along if you feel like that's what you wanna do"*

Coach Holiday: Reviews keys to coaching evaluation

Long-time educator is liaison for program

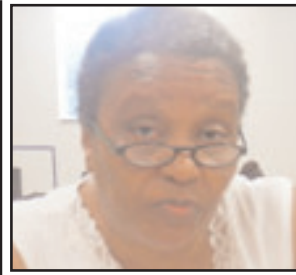
Pat Holiday is Executive Coaching's site coordinator for Konnoak Elementary School. Her duties include making and maintaining contact with teachers on a daily basis, and ensuring effective and smooth operation of the overall academic program.

"I have been involved in education for a number of years



Coach Holiday

and I hope that I can help impact the students in this program," she said. "I really look forward to making sure that the teachers have all necessary materials to deliver a quality lesson every day. We must make sure that our coaches have the materials to provide an outstanding academic and cultural experience for our children each day."



Coach Twiggs provides bulletin points for coaches

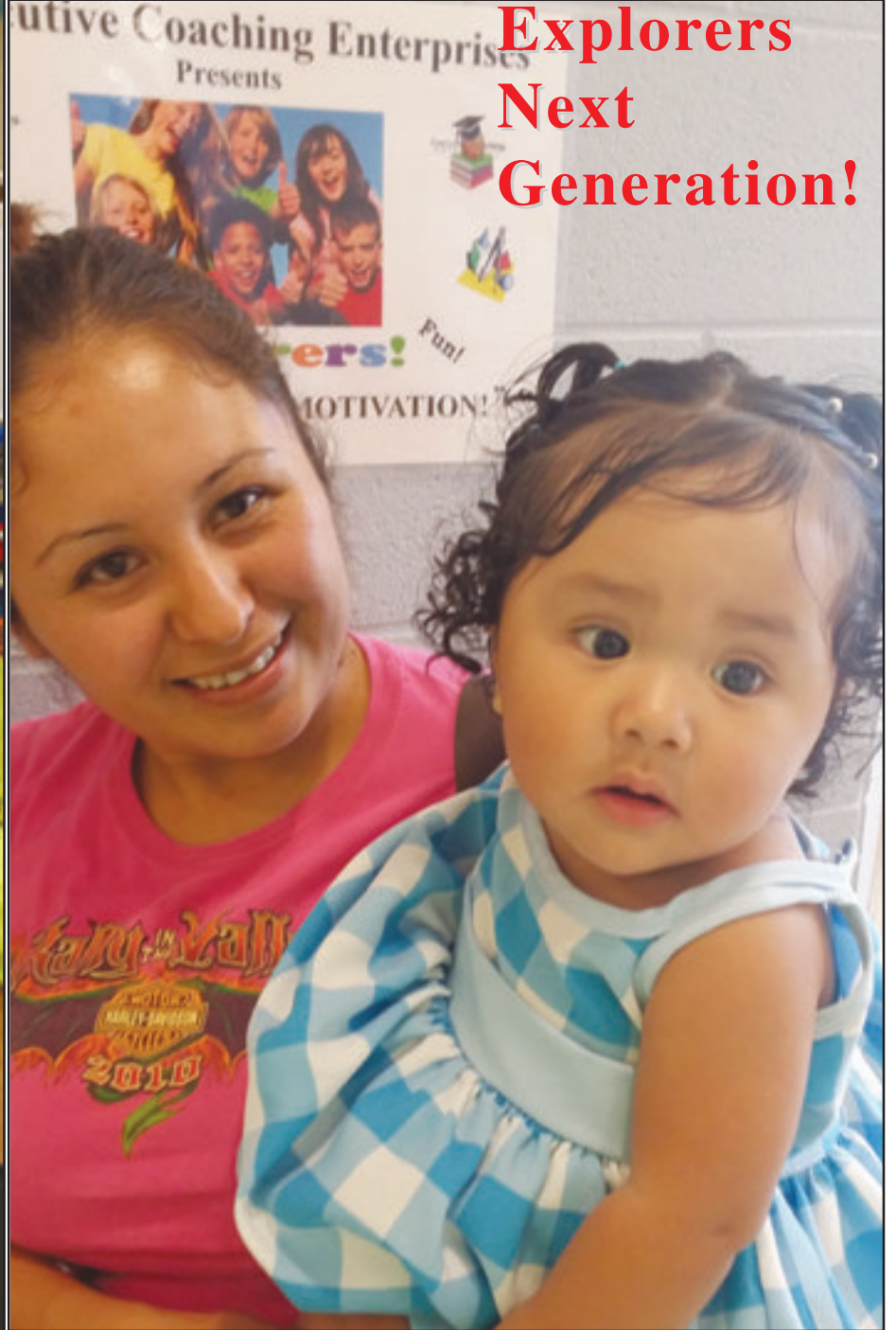
A few pointers can go a long way

- * Attendance is very important: Be on time and prepared;
- * Maximize Instruction—your time on task is essential for the success of your students.
- * Pace yourself so that you can be successful!
- * How do you start your day? The way you start your day is the way you will finish it!
- * Be Consistent—you only have 12 days to impact the kids' lives.
- * Respect is important –If you give respect you will get respect!

CEO in the House!

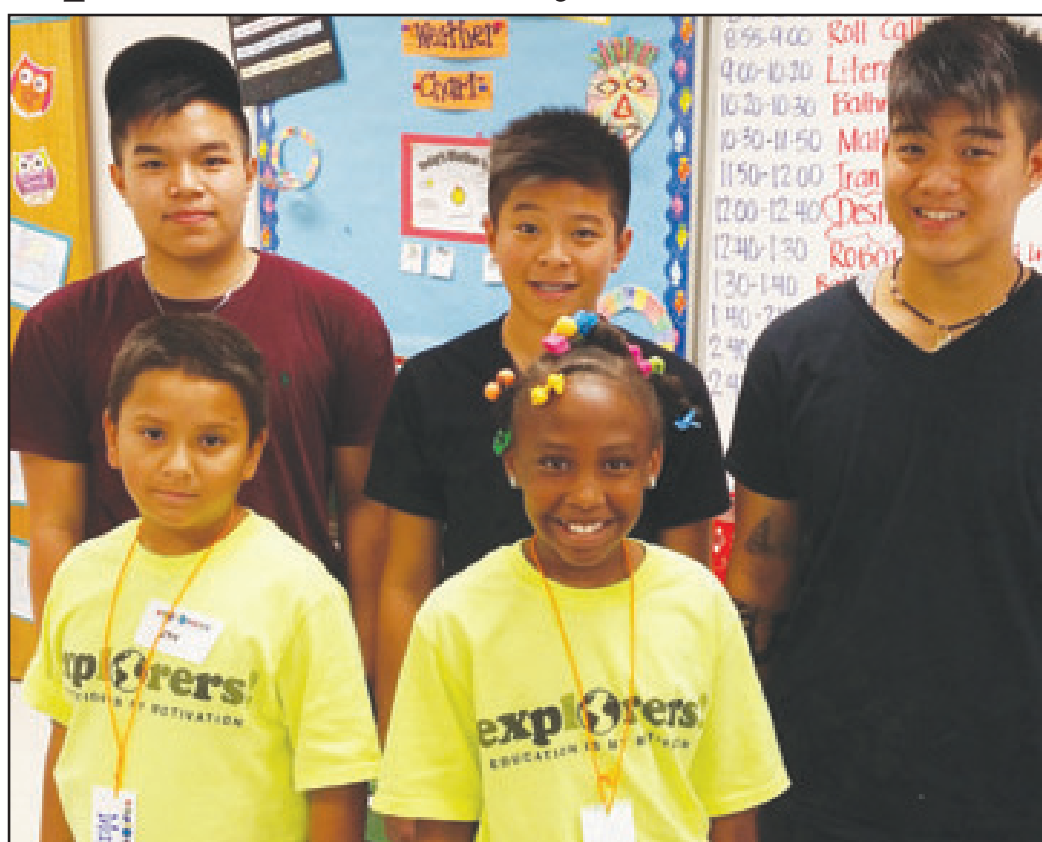


Mike Leuer, CEO of Executive Coaching Enterprises recently stopped by Gibson Elementary and is pictured with campers.



Explorers Next Generation!

Special Delivery from ex-campers to current campers



Friendly Advice!

Officer Bobby Cuthbertson (above) talks with campers during his visit to the Explorers Camp. Members of the staff of Peking Garden pose for a photo with Explorers Camp participants.

Former private school student relishes Explorers Camp

Samantha Davis says camp gives her a chance to display artistic talent

By Imas Sivad
Executive Coaching Star

Samantha Davis is having the time of her life this summer participating in the Explorers Camp at Petree Elementary. Samantha says the camp is the most energetic and fun camp in which she has ever participated.

For the past two summers Samantha has attended Camp Oonie Koonie Cha, an early childhood music camp that blends a variety of musical experiences with art and instrument construction, science experiments, dramatic play, storytelling, and a final performance.

That camp was held for one week and provided creative hands-on activities that are designed to engage the whole child in an unforgettable camp experience. The culminating experience for that camp is a theatrical performance and songs performed by the campers.

Samantha said the Explorers

Camp has given her a chance to display her creative talents.

"I really like performing and this camp gives us a chance to do that every day," she said. "We learn a lot of fun things, but the coaches allow us the freedom to express ourselves in many ways."

Samantha said she also enjoys getting to meet new friends. The 2013-14 school year was the first in which she attended public school. She attended Forsyth Country Day School for Jr. Pre-K, Pre-K, Kindergarten and First Grade. After her grandfather accepted a position with Elementary School Academy at Cook Elementary last August, she decided to accompany him to the school.

"I had a lot of friends that I started school with at Forsyth Country Day," Samantha said. "I didn't know if I would like public school, but I enjoyed it. I missed my friends that I had been with in class for four years, but I was able to

make a lot of new friends at my new school.

"I missed participating in some activities that I did at Forsyth Country Day also," Samantha added. "I was in the Give Me the Beat choir and I liked performing in plays at Forsyth Country Day. They didn't have those kind of things at Cook. But now I'm getting a chance to sing and act in the Explorers Camp."

One of the more enjoyable activities for Samantha this summer has been riding the big yellow school bus, an experience she has never had.

"I always wanted to ride the school bus to school," she said. "It is a lot of fun. You get to be with your friends and talk with them."

Like her previous experience at Forsyth Country Day, Samantha was on the A-B honor roll during all four quarters last year. But she said she's learned a lot at the Explorers Camp.

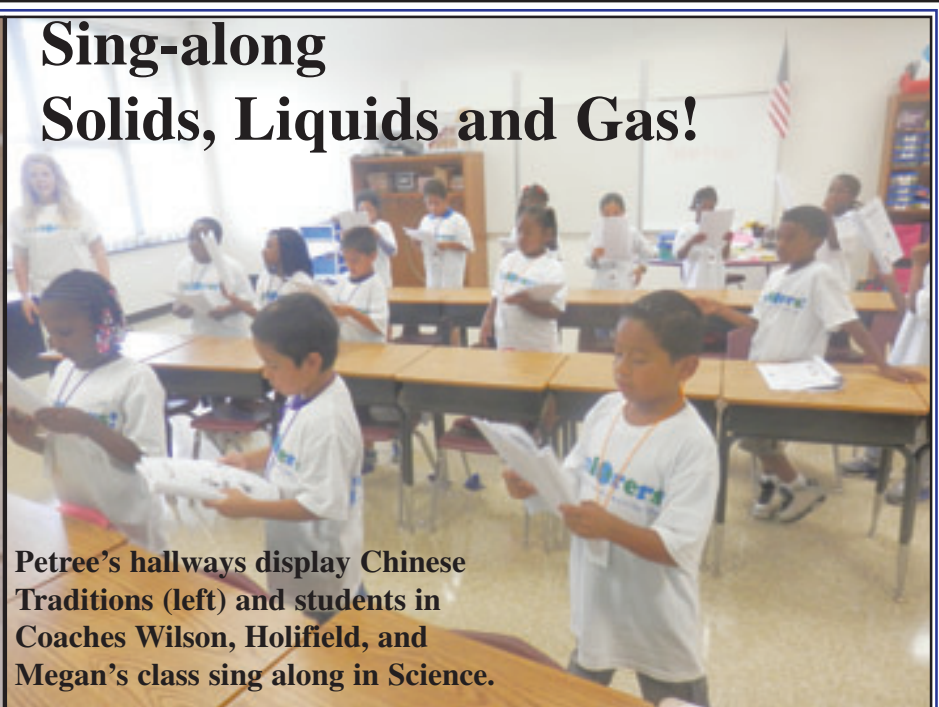


Samantha Davis

"The section on Chinese culture was fun and exciting," she said. "Learning about different people around the world was good because I plan to travel to some of those places someday."



Samantha Davis (left) gets on the school bus for the first in her life. She made a friend (Madison Shorter) at camp and the two share a seat on the ride home. Below left, she plays a rhythmical game with classmates and then gets serious about academics.

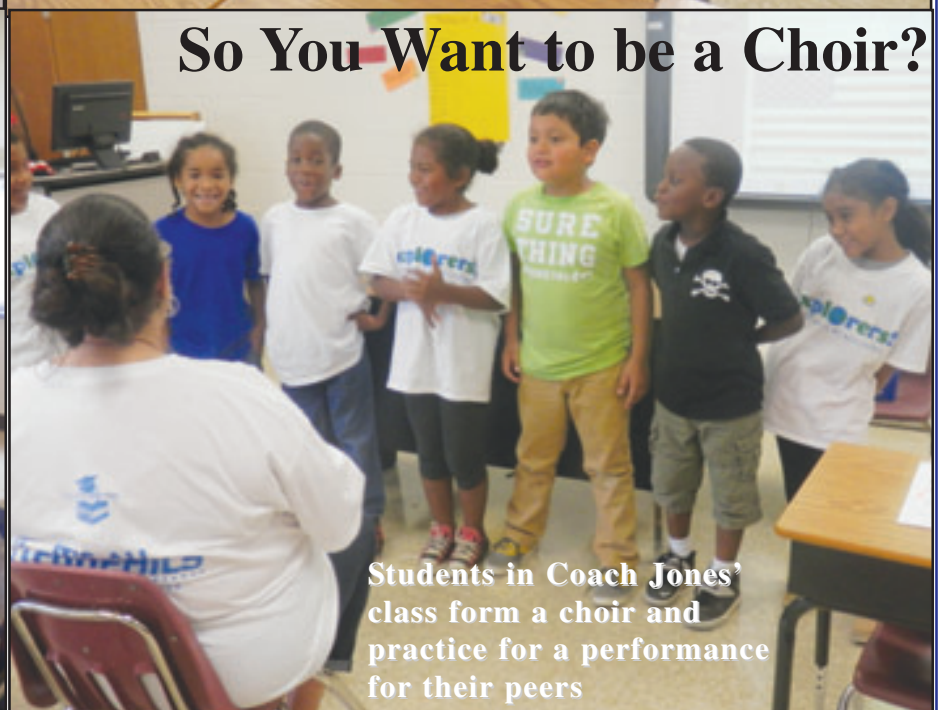


Sing-along Solids, Liquids and Gas!

Petree's hallways display Chinese Traditions (left) and students in Coaches Wilson, Holifield, and Megan's class sing along in Science.



Bust a Move!



So You Want to be a Choir?

Students in Coach Jones' class form a choir and practice for a performance for their peers

Science plant experiment creates excitement at Gibson

Campers observe the growth process, from a seed to a plant

By Sam Davis
Executive Coaching Star

Coach Quesinberry and her rising second grade Explorers at Gibson Elementary are having fun at the camp, learning science. In particular, the students planted seeds in cups last week in a science experiment.

They were surprised to learn upon inspection of their cups this week that many of the seeds had begun to sprout out of the dirt in their cups.

Alexia Aorlao said she was surprised to see her plant grow from a seed so quickly.

"It is fun and exciting to see this happen," she said. "Our coach

told us this would happen, but to see it is unbelievable.

Students placed their cups in different environments."

Coach Quesinberry's grew the most although it was placed in a sealed plastic bag. Some students did the same, while others stored their cups on the window seal.

The plants were in various degrees of growth when the students returned on Monday. Some of the students' cups had nothing sprouting out of the ground, which disappointed them. However, Coach Quesinberry

"It is fun and exciting to see this happen. Our coach told us this would happen, but to see it is unbelievable. Students placed their cups in different environments."

- Alexia Aorlao

assured them that their seed would likely eventually germinate and they would be able to see the plant coming out of the ground.

Students in Coach Quesinberry's class also built models with Legos parts, which is included in their robotics curriculum. Brianna Cundiff said she decided to build a house.

"That was a lot of fun," she said. "I think my house is going to be shaped like a rectangle. It's going to be nice and big."

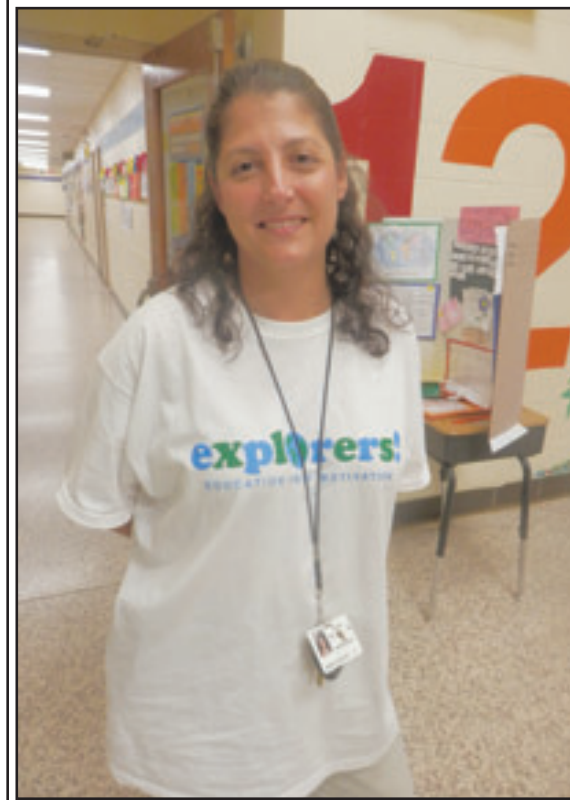


Police officer Bobby Cuthbertson enjoys lunch with campers.



Peking Garden comes to Gibson Elementary
Peking Garden of Gastonia, N.C. delivered Chinese food to Gibson last week.

Sedge Garden Explorers Camp suits Varoutsos just fine



Coach Michelle Varoutsos

By Sam Davis
Executive Coaching Star

As the site coordinator at the Explorers Camp at Sedge Garden elementary this summer, Michelle Varoutsos feels right at home. Varoutsos said she has worked with the same student population for nearly 20 years and is comfortable in that environment.

Varoutsos has spent more than 18 years in the classroom as a teacher, but decided to pursue a principal's license last summer. She enrolled in a program at UNC-Greensboro and recently completed it. Part of the program required that she serves as a principal's intern for one year at a teacher's salary. She also spent five weeks last summer taking "hard-core" classes from 8 o'clock in the morning until 5 in the after-

noon. She was also required to attend classes one day a week at a selected site in the Triad.

Varoutsos said she is looking to accept an assistant principal's position for the upcoming school year.

"That's my plan," she said. "In the past I have worked as a learning team administrator, so I

"This program allows you to be with the students over the summer and continues to the progress that you have made with them during the school year."

- Michelle Varoutsos

do have some background in administration. If it (finding a position as an AP) doesn't work out I will probably go back to a teaching position at Mineral Springs and wait for something else to open up."

In the meantime, Varoutsos is running around Sedge Garden every day, doing logistical things and helping to administer the Explorers Camp.

"This worked out perfectly for me," she said. It's run by Title I and I have worked at Title I schools for a long time. It's good to be in a leadership role. In the past, I have been in positions with similar responsibilities."

Varoutsos said the camp should impact the students in a positive way and that's one of the reasons she wanted to be involved in it.

"The students are eager and excited about learning and then they go home for the summer and you aren't able to help them grow," she said. "This program allows you to be with the students over the summer and continues to the progress that you have made with them during the school year."



Eager Minds!

Students at Sedge Garden focus their attention on their coaches during Explorers Camp. The students are participating in a variety of enrichment activities, including reading, math, cultural arts and music. Students created Chinese Lanterns (above right), which are displayed prominently throughout the hallways and classrooms at Sedge Garden Elementary.

Getting accustomed to Mr. Even and Mrs. Odd



Kimel Farm Elementary students learn 'unique' system of counting from Coach Wright

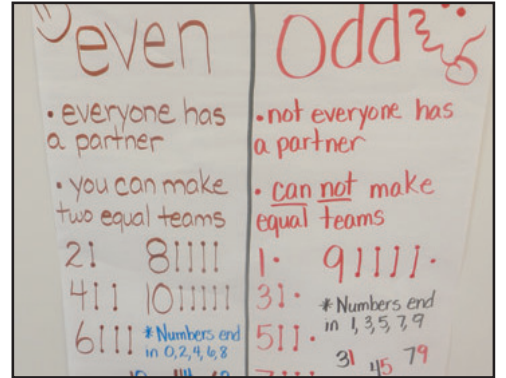
By Sam Davis
Executive Coaching Stars

which the campers can relate.

of numbers that were both odd and even. She also asked the students if they could give numbers that were odd and even. The campers were quick to respond enthusiastically.

There is definitely nothing boring about the way Coach Wright approaches her lesson plans for teaching Explorer campers how to tell if a number is odd or even. Wright uses many props in creative ways to open up the students' understanding and then reinforces it with examples from everyday life of

On Tuesday (July 22) Coach Wright and her students discussed Mr. Odd and Mrs. Even. Coach Wright began by reviewing the lesson from Monday. She then gave the students examples



If you want it, you will have to earn it!

Kimel Park 'Store' offers incentives for student success, with items in its store

The Explorers Camp is placing a premium on student achievement this summer. As a way to offer incentives to its campers, each site has a store where campers can trade in their money earned in class

each day for items. The students can accumulate money throughout the week and have a chance to purchase items on Thursday.

Campers can earn money in a variety of ways, from having a positive

attitude every day to answering questions in class or being willing to participate in the 'Destiny Cafe'. Other special incentives for the campers include Breakfast of Champions each day.



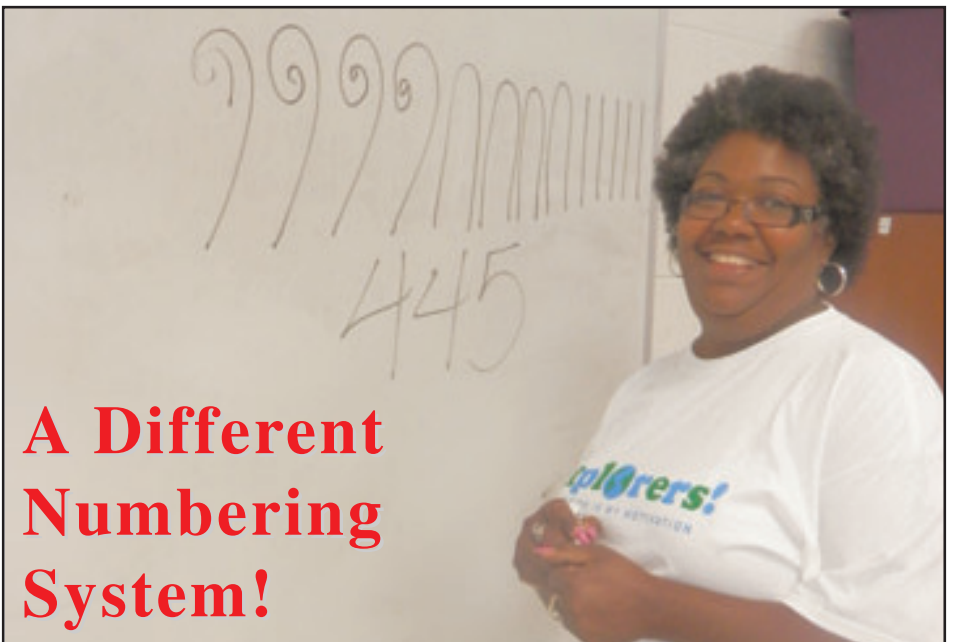
Like My Mask?



Can You Give Me Consonant Blends?

On Another Level!

Kimel Farm campers have received enrichment activities throughout the summer that are designed to help them grow in many academic and social area. The model used by Executive Coaching Enterprises is designed to give students activities that fall within the state of North Carolina's Department of Public Instruction's Best Practices guidelines. Students are given very little "seatwork". Instead, they are given assignments that encourage more active learning, with all the attendant noise and movement of students doing, talking, and collaborating. They also give more diverse roles for teachers, including coaching, demonstrating, and modeling; with more emphasis on higher-order thinking; and more deep study of a smaller number of topics.



A Different Numbering System!

