



## MESSAGE FROM MR. CORDES Principal of Cedarwood School



Dear Cedarwood Family,

October 26, 2018

As we enter the start of the second quarter of the 2018-2019 academic year, I am reaching out to you and asking you to continue supporting Cedarwood with the same intensity and sincerity that you demonstrated during the previous nine weeks. With enthusiasm circulating throughout campus, I am proud of the work we are doing to make our 35<sup>th</sup> year one of the most memorable years in recent history.

During the second quarter, we will host numerous exciting events that will allow you to join us and participate in *The Cedarwood Experience*. I would like to personally invite you to the 2018 NIAL Volleyball Championships that will take place in our gymnasium during the week of October 29<sup>th</sup> - November 2<sup>nd</sup>. I invite you to join me on October 31<sup>st</sup> when our student body participates in the anticipated Book Character Parade. I invite you to join me for our patriotic Veterans Day Assembly on November 9<sup>th</sup>. Join me as we watch our cheerleaders participate in the Winter on the Water parade on December 8<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendar for our Annual Holiday Performance on December 14<sup>th</sup> and witness the touching moment when our students serve as Christmas Angels for numerous families in need. Finally, join me for our K-3<sup>rd</sup> Christmas Parties and Middle School Holiday Social on December 20<sup>th</sup>.

As you can clearly see, we are rushing toward the conclusion of 2018 with our eyes and hearts ready to embrace 2019. In these final weeks, join with us as we demonstrate why Cedarwood is family.

*Brian*

### They Made Us Proud

I felt a strong desire to include this article on the main page of my newsletter. On October 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 8:00p.m., our 2018 Volleyball season came to a close when our team was eliminated from the 2018 NIAL Division III playoffs. Though our girls wanted to continue to play and continue to advance, the scoreboard said otherwise. However, as the game progressed, I witnessed what was best about our team: *its positivity*. Down a game, our Snappers rallied back to win Game 2 and force a decisive Game 3. Throughout the three game match, our players cheered for each other and offered support whenever they could. When the game concluded, each member of the team was there to support one another. I witnessed one of the senior-members of the team turn to one of her youngest teammates and say, "Next year, you all are going to be great".



When the season began and Coach Morgan provided us with a team roster, I noticed that some of our players were new to the team. One player acknowledged that she had never played volleyball. I jokingly thought, "Let's keep our expectations at a reasonable level". As the season concluded, and I stood on the court watching our Snappers console each other, I rarely have felt as proud as I did at that moment. This team played for the love of the game ...not for wins or losses ... not for scholarships or fame .... they played for friendships. With that being said, it is clear that this year, this team was a winner!



# CHECKING IN *with the* CLASS OF 2018

One of Cedarwood School's Most-Memorable Classes



## Matthew Longo

At St. Paul's, Matthew has made all A's. He joined the cross country team and finished 7th overall (1st for St. Paul's 8th grade team) at the team's most recent race (the Allstate sugar bowl cross country classic this past weekend) with a time of 11 min 46.35 sec for the 2 mile race. Matthew continues to play club soccer and is looking forward to the soccer tryouts at St. Paul's.



## Preston Tate

Preston is currently enrolled at St. Paul's School in Covington. Preston is in Honors Math and Honors English. He is a member of the SPS Cross Country Team and the SPS Wrestling Team.



## And the Band Played On!

Pictured above are Dominic Roy, Ethan Stenger, Jack Hadskey, and Daren Delaune. Joined with them in this picture is Cedarwood alum Austen Dunavant '17. The boys have been rocking throughout their first year in high school helping to push their St. Paul's football team to a successful season. Be sure to look for these guys during Mardi Gras 2019 ...it always seems like St. Paul's is in every parade. How do they accomplish that?

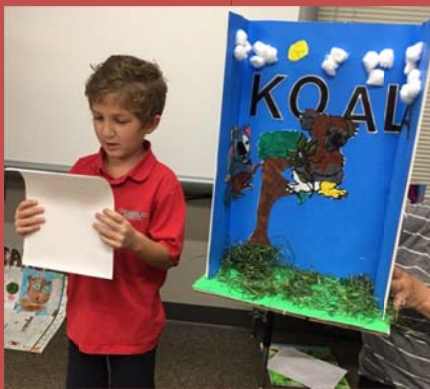
## Meagan McKean ..a.k.a. "Champ"

After leaving Cedarwood, Meagan quickly established herself as one of Northlake Christian's most successful students both in and out of the classroom. While maintaining her academic success by making the "A" Honor Roll, Meagan joined the school's Cheer Competition Team and the JV Cheerleading squad. Meagan was also recruited to join the school's powerlifting team. #p-assionat



## Olivia Hillburn

Olivia joined the Hannan Cheerleaders and is one of their best "flyers". Olivia also volunteers her time as a member of Key Club and Sister Hawks. Always committed to academic excellence, Olivia presently has a 4.0 GPA.



## Lions and Tigers and ..... Nope, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Goes for the Lesser Known Loveable Creatures... Oh My!

On October 17<sup>th</sup>, the first grade classroom was turned into a wildlife preserve as students shared interesting facts about some lesser-known animals. Some students completed poster boards, while other students created a landscape to accompany their projects. The most impressive portion of the presentations were the speeches that students delivered to their classmates. We are all aware that Cedarwood School graduates are highly sought after by local high schools due to the students strong academic foundation. This strong Foundation for Life was more than evident as each first grader proudly spoke of his/her loveable creature.

The Ancient Greeks were known for their sophists (intellectual thinkers). In their society, it was believed that the most important skill a citizen could master was the art of public speaking. To these great minds, the art of oration ensured that a person could not only be a leader of mankind, but he/she could also influence individuals to support his/her ideas.

On Monday morning, I was certain that the spirits of the legendary Greeks .....Socrates, Plato, Aristotle ... were smiling on Ms. Salty's classroom saying, "They must be part Athenian". I remain truly appreciative of the many families who support and encourage their children to not only meet the goals and guidelines of a project, but also to surpass those basic requirements in an attempt to proudly demonstrate their creative side.

## The Quickest Path to the Heart is through the Stomach, Right?

In the simplest terms possible, our Parents Club is beyond awesome. Year after year, this collection of Moms and Dads find ways to make each member of the Cedarwood School faculty and staff feel truly appreciated. On October 19<sup>th</sup>, as teachers conducted conferences throughout the day, our fabulous Parents Club stepped up and created a smorgasboard of delicious lunch items. Yes, I did have “seconds” and I am not going to apologize for that. Ha! I am a strong believer that when parents are active at school, students are happy to go to school. This collaborative approach between parents and teachers continues to shape *The Cedarwood Experience*.



## And They Are Off .....



When the Innovation Lab opened last school year, my hope was to one day walk throughout campus and see students embracing STEM centered concepts. I am happy to report to you that it is now more common than ever to see our students in the main hallway, in the courtyard, or in our new gymnasium “testing” their latest STEM project.



Pictured above is 6<sup>th</sup> Grader Reese Philippus as he competes in his grade level’s morning competition. Each student designed his/her car using a straw, a water bottle, a balloon, and the basic principles of science. The balloon, when filled with air provided by the student blowing into the attached straw, contains potential energy. When the balloon is released, the potential energy is transformed into kinetic energy ---- basically serving as the energy of the student’s self-made water bottle car. Sir Isaac Newton would be very impressed to see that his third law of motion was on center display during this competition. As the competition continued, markings were placed on the gym floor to identify how far the cars traveled. Some cars went further than others, however, all students learned the concept and put science into action. That is success!



## Book Character Day is the Talk of School .... Its Dress Up Time!

On October 31<sup>st</sup>, our students will participate in the annual Book Character Parade. Cedarwood does not celebrate the 31<sup>st</sup> as a day of ghosts and goblins and/or tricks or treats, but instead as a day that reminds students of the joy of reading. Therefore, instead of dressing as a scary monster, our students reflect on their all-time favorite novel and come to school dressed as the novel’s lead character (or any character in the book). Everyone participates in this activity because it is good old wholesome, creative fun. I have participated in this parade each of the past three years and I am ready for this year’s festivities. Be sure to come to campus for our morning assembly so that you can see all of the characters!

## Cedarwood Children’s Foundation News

Our Cedarwood Children’s Foundation has arranged for an on-campus blood drive to benefit our local community. On October 31<sup>st</sup>, every parent who stops by campus and donates, his/her child will receive a really cool New Orleans Saints Who Dat t-shirt. This is a wonderful cause. Perhaps you can join us for our morning Book Character Parade and then remain on campus long enough to make a life-saving donation. (7:30a.m. – 1:00p.m.)





## So Posh .... Paint-n-Learn

What a year it has been so far for our fourth grade. Thanks to the coordination skills of Ms. Leslie Joyce, the newest members of our Middle School had the opportunity to travel to Posh Paint Pub for a lesson on Native American pottery. As the students continue their study of local customs and traditions of indigenous people, this activity presented itself as the perfect supplement to what is already a fascinating topic. When the students returned to campus, the first comment I heard was, "That was awesome".



## I See Fun and Learning in the Forecast

Two years ago, we were fortunate to invite Nikki Gazeley join our faculty as the new second grade teacher.



We wanted someone with the academic credentials we desired, but as important, we wanted a teacher who would be loved and embraced by her students and her students' parents.

Ms. Gazeley has certainly lived up to our expectations. Part of her success can be credited to her endless attempts to find new ways to educate and motivate her students. On November 8<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Gazeley and her 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade students are traveling to New Orleans for a behind the scenes tour of the new WDSU News Channel 6 station. The students are also being given a special opportunity to meet with the meteorologists to gain a clear understanding of predicting weather patterns.



## After School Art Club is "Artists in Motion"

With Ms. Pace's popularity rising by the day, it would have been a missed opportunity if we had not asked her to share her love of art with our students as often as possible. When approached about the possibility of starting an after school Art Club, Ms. Pace's excitement and enthusiasm was more than we expected. She quickly hit the ground running and our students are benefiting not only from her expertise, but also from her positive interaction with each young artist who enters the Cedarwood Art Studio.

