

# THE CARDINAL

From the desk of the Executive Director

## Happy Holidays!

During this busy and festive time of year I find myself reflecting on life's blessings and how proud I am of our school! I am so thankful to be a part of such a great school community! I hope each of you have a wonderful holiday season and great start to 2023!



Elementary School Parade of Fiction

## Cardinal News and Updates

- Corvian's Elementary Cardinals were very excited for the return of our traditional **Parade of Fiction** at the end of October! There were Harry Potter and Percy Jackson characters along with Curious George, Dogman and a library of others.
- Congratulations to our kindergarten students for successfully presenting their very first Corvian play, *Once Upon a Story!*
- We are excited about the progress being made on plans for our **new elementary building**! We are in the process of finalizing plans for the space and have even been able to consider furniture options, and how we can best use the new facility for our littlest Cardinals. We look forward to being able to share updates as we move ahead in the building process.
- Our **5th grade trip to Seabrook Island** was once again a huge success! Barrier Island has a mile of beach front with more than 300 acres of undeveloped maritime forest and salt marshes that students get to explore. Students learned about ecosystems, explored beaches and dunes, swam in the ocean, and frolicked in the salt marsh and mud pit. Students were introduced to, and expanded their classroom knowledge on, various ecological concepts such as habitats, adaptations, abiotic and biotic factors, food chains/web, various ecosystems, and conservation. They even got to dissect an owl pellet and learn how to use a compass! Students were able to bond over hands-on learning, campfires, square dancing, and more. Fun times were had by all!
- Corvian 8th graders traveled to **Washington, D.C.** in October. They visited the African American Museum of History and Culture, Arlington National Cemetery, the US Capitol Building, and the Holocaust Museum. They also toured the national monuments and visited Monticello on their way back to Charlotte. I am so pleased our 8th graders had the opportunity to explore all of these historic sites and to bond as a class!
- Congratulations to the 58 high school students who made **High Honor Roll** and the 121 high school students who made **Honor Roll** for the first marking period. Keep up the good work!
- Our 11th **annual Golf Tournament** was a great success. The weather was gorgeous and the tournament was sold out! We raised \$23k! Special thanks to our many corporate sponsors.
- On October 11, Corvian hosted the **Leaders Building Leaders Conference** for all NC charter school leaders. This organization provides training, strategic planning, counseling, and organizational support to over 100 charter schools. Charter school administrators from around the state attended to learn from Corvian's Leadership Team in an effort to improve the academics, finances, operations, and governance at their own schools. It was a fantastic opportunity to share our successes and to network with other charter school leaders.

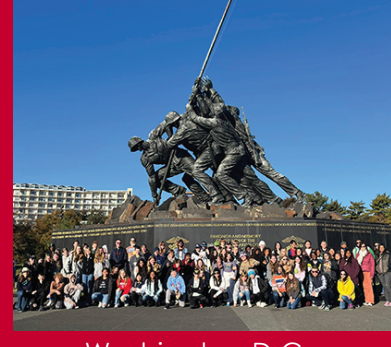
DECEMBER 2022

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Cardinal News & Updates
- Acceptances, Graduation Bling & More
- Fall Sports Achievements
- Travel Opportunities
- Upcoming Events



Barrier Islands



Washington D.C.

CLASS OF 2023

## Acceptances, Graduation Bling & More

862

Number of college and university applications submitted by the Class of 2023

\$1.5 MILLION

Current combined total of merit scholarships awarded to the class of 2023 thus far and it is just the beginning!

COMING SOON

Class of 2023  
Sweatshirts and Tees  
Ordering information will be posted in January on Schoology.



2023 Invitation Sample

I am so excited for the Class of 2023! Every graduate is unique and we celebrate their many accomplishments and achievements. It is such an honor for me to hand each of our graduates their Corvian diploma.

Most college acceptance letters will arrive over the next few months, but some of our students have already heard back! Our seniors have already been accepted to over 35 colleges and universities including Penn State, High Point, Clemson and The University of Georgia. We are so proud of the 47 seniors who have received acceptance letters so far. Most students will receive their decision letters in the months of December, January and February, so there's more exciting news to come! Parents and students, be sure to update Ms. Mendoza with college acceptances and scholarship news so we can celebrate together!

In May, we will celebrate the academic, athletic, and extracurricular achievements of the class of 2023. The student with the highest GPA will be recognized as

the Valedictorian of the Class 2023 and will wear a gold medallion to celebrate this honor. The student with the second highest GPA will be recognized as the Salutatorian of the Class of 2023 and will wear a silver medallion to celebrate this honor. Celebratory cords will be worn by other students with high academic honors. The top ten students in the class will wear a platinum cord. Every student with an unweighted GPA of 3.75 or higher will wear a gold cord. Current NHS members will wear a white NHS stole underneath their cords.

Our Advanced Placement students will wear an AP pin for each year of enrollment in the program. Students who are acknowledged by the College Board as AP Scholars or AP Scholars with distinction will wear navy/gold cords. Students in the AP Capstone Diploma Program will wear a navy cord.

Students involved in some extracurricular activities will also wear cords or pins. For example, current Student Ambassadors will wear red/gold cords and Student Council members will wear kelly green cords. Students will also be able to wear pins from clubs like Key Club. Student athletes will be recognized with athletic pins. Additionally, scholar athletes will wear a navy/red cord.

I am excited to announce that our graduates will once again be able to decorate the tops of their caps. This is an opportunity for graduates to celebrate in a special, one-of-a-kind way. Last year, the Class of 2022 set the bar high with creative tributes to their heritage, messages of appreciation to their families, and goals for the future. Get inspired!

## Fall Sports Achievements

What an incredible fall sports season we had here at Corvian! The Women's Golf Team sent its first athlete, Ivanna Carreon, to the NCHSAA State Finals. Ivanna placed 29th out of 79 athletes from across the state. The Varsity Cross Country Team sent two athletes, Taylor Worley and Cole Fiorillo, to the NCHSAA State Championship meet on November 5th. Taylor placed 18th and Cole placed 10th earning him a spot on the podium. Congratulations, athletes, on this amazing accomplishment!



Varsity Football

CONGRATULATIONS



Ivanna Carreon



Cole Fiorillo & Taylor Worley

I am so excited to announce that during our football team's inaugural season we finished 5-4 with a perfect 4-0 at home. Our first big win was at Lake Norman Charter School. They chose us as their homecoming game. We were happy to oblige and even happier to beat them 19-14. I am so proud of our student athletes and coaches.

Coach Chris has done an incredible job coaching our football players on and off the field. Chris comes to us from Youngstown, Ohio where he coached for 20 years. Over 70 of Coach Chris' student athletes earned athletic scholarships to schools like Harvard, Yale, Notre Dame, Ohio State, Michigan, Kentucky, Oregon, Lafayette, Penn State, etc. Several had pro-careers with the Patriots, Rams, Browns, Steelers, Ravens. We are excited to have Chris on our team!

Last month, Coach Chris took ten high school students to the University of Kentucky to tour the campus and football facilities, meet coaches, watch practice, and sit in on meetings with players. At the end of the trip, two Corvian athletes were offered full athletic scholarships to the University of Kentucky for football. Congratulations, Gavin Clark (Class of 2024) and Cameron Johnson (Class of 2025). We are so proud of you! Coach Chris has other trips scheduled for this spring and summer and we are excited to see what doors this will open for our other student athletes.



Cameron Johnson & Gavin Clark

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

## Explore New York City & More!



9/11 Memorial



Statue of Liberty



One World Trade Center, New York

We are so excited that a group of high school students will be traveling to the Big Apple during Spring Break! Students will spend four days exploring New York City which includes a walking tour of Midtown to see the United Nations Headquarters, Grand Central Station, Rockefeller Center, and St. Patrick's Cathedral. On the trip, they will also visit Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty, the 9/11 Memorial, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Times Square, and Central Park. Of course, no trip to NYC would be complete without attending a Broadway play and touring Chinatown, Little Italy, Greenwich Village, and SoHo. This is such an exciting opportunity for

our students to experience the joy of travel! We still have a few spots left, so if you have a 9th-12th grader who is interested in this adventure, [CLICK HERE](#) and sign up today.

As many of you know, our students have had the opportunity to travel internationally, visiting Iceland, Germany, and Italy. In June of 2024, they will have the opportunity to visit Costa Rica! This seven day tour will consist of zip lining, snorkeling, and experiencing many of the breathtaking views that Costa Rica has to offer. If you are interested in joining in on the adventure [CLICK HERE](#) to learn.

IMPORTANT DATES

- State of the School Address, January 30
- Registration opens for Camp Corvian, February 1
- Wizard of Oz Performance, March 3-5
- Corvian 5K, March 25
- Corvian Graduation, May 24

MORE FUN PICTURES FROM THE PARADE OF FICTION AND THE BARRIER ISLANDS!

