



The Herald

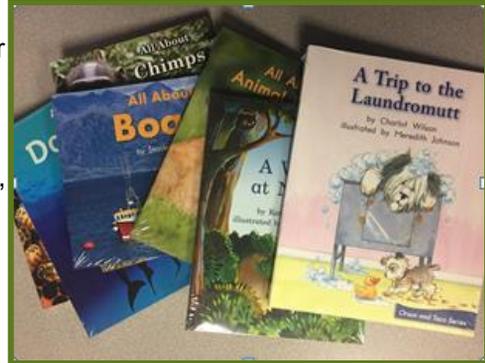
June 2017

A Publication of the MCA Office of Advancement and Development



Summer Programs at MCA

During June, MCA offered two summer programs for the growth and edification of our students. MCA's Summer Reading Camp, headed by Lower School Director Michael Reeves, was designed to ensure that participating students sustain and expand upon the gains in reading made during the regular school year. Thirty-nine students from first, second, and third grades participated this summer, receiving instruction from five teachers. The camp, scheduled from June 3 through June 30, lasted 3.5 hours a day. Instruction during the camp consisted of a blend of small group instruction based on reading needs, independent reading, read-aloud time, grade-level specific instruction, attention to summer reading requirements, and web-based, performance-based instruction. Students were assessed using the Fountas and Pinnel assessment system, either at the end of the regular school year or on the initial day of the camp. Exit assessments were used to examine the growth of each individual student during the camp. In addition, these assessments drove instruction during the camp so that students received the particular reading interventions they needed to develop their reading skills. The leveled instruction came from the Leveled Learning Intervention curriculum from Fountas and Pinnel. This is the first year MCA has sponsored this camp. Headmaster Kirby McCrary said about the camp, "The ability to read is a foundational skill for educational growth and particularly important in the classical education because the model is based in language. We have been so pleased to partner with our parents to strengthen their children's ability to read and understand printed text."



The Leveled Literacy Intervention system aligns with the Fountas and Pinnel assessment system used for some time by MCA. The system provides targeted reading lessons and interventions to strengthen reading fluency, accuracy, and comprehension.

Forty-three students participated in The After School Academy: Summer Program. Students were able to grow their skills and passions while having a great time doing so. Several camp classes were offered, including creative arts, science and cooking, etiquette, dancing, fun and games, beginning cheerleading, and Minecraft, and it's quite possible the mud slide was a highlight for many! Mandy Dean, MCA's Educational Technologist and teacher for the Minecraft sessions said, "Summer camp is a great way for students to enjoy spending time with their classmates and friends, and also make new friends, while getting to do things they love. For me, it's a way to spend extra time teaching our amazing students something that I know they really enjoy. The kids are great, and it's a wonderful extension to the school year!"



Left: **Morgan Shipley** used Perler beads to create a Minecraft Creeper, a character from the game. When finished, she made it into a keychain and took it home as a keepsake. Center: **Gracie Segrest** draws her favorite Minecraft character on the sidewalk. Several crafts were completed during the course to provide a fun break from screen time, such as the Minecraft bookmarks on the right.

