



CAMPERDOWN CONNECTION

OCTOBER 2015

CAMPERDOWN ACADEMY'S *Teacher Training & Outreach Program*

Malissa Stephens says it best: **“I am a stronger teacher since being trained in Orton-Gillingham.”** Malissa is a first grade teacher at James M. Brown Elementary in Oconee County. She is one of hundreds of teachers in the Upstate and around the country that are receiving Orton-Gillingham (OG) training as part of the Camperdown Academy Teacher Training and Outreach program. Camperdown was among the first schools approached by the Academy of Orton-Gillingham Practitioners and Educators to apply for accreditation as both a training and teaching site. Camperdown received both accreditations in April 2002, and is one of only eight schools in the entire country with the distinction of having both a training site and institution accreditation.



The Training and Outreach Program at Camperdown is overseen by Heidi Bishop, a Fellow of the Academy since 2001. Her passion is to equip individuals to utilize the OG Approach in reaching dyslexic learners. There are four different levels of training offered through Camperdown: Subscriber, Classroom Educator, Associate, and Certified. Each level offers an additional layer of comprehension in understanding this multisensory approach to teaching. In the multi-week Associate Level training held this past summer,

SUBSCRIBER LEVEL WORKSHOP This minimum 6-hour workshop provides an initial overview of the nature of dyslexia and the principles of the Orton-Gillingham Approach.

CLASSROOM EDUCATORS TRAINING This minimum 30-hour training qualifies the participant to apply the principles of the OG Approach in literacy instruction for the classroom or small groups.

ASSOCIATE LEVEL TRAINING This minimum 60-hour training qualifies the participant to tutor individuals using the OG Approach under the supervision of a Fellow.

CERTIFIED LEVEL TRAINING This minimum 100-hour training qualifies the participant to tutor individuals and teach small groups using the OG Approach.

Camperdown hosted teachers from Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. The various levels of training attract everyone from homeschool parents, to public/private school teachers, even psychologists and private tutors. Over the years, generous grant funding from foundations such as Greenville Women Giving have helped Camperdown provide training free of charge to Title 1 public school teachers. Often, those Title 1 teachers are reaching the most at-risk students in the community and

the OG training helps not just with teaching strategies but also with early identification. Former trainee Jean Thomas, Reading Intervention Teacher at Stone Academy, affirmed, **“I have found OG to be the missing puzzle piece in reading instruction for struggling readers.”** Information about upcoming training sessions can be found by visiting www.camperdown.org. To learn more about the Orton-Gillingham Approach and the Academy, visit www.ortonacademy.org.



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ALUMNI PRIDE

Note from Mr. Dan



Dear Friends,

I hope you will celebrate with us that our school has been recognized as one of the Top 50 Best Private Schools for Special Needs in the country. The list covers a range of special needs including schools for children with learning disabilities. Visit our website www.camperdown.org where you can click on a link to view the article. It's a great day to be a Camperdown Jaguar!

Many of you received our recent mailer highlighting alum Garison Taylor's story. We are always glad to be able to share the good news of "life after Camperdown" success. Those success stories are only possible with your continued support of our school and your generous giving to our Annual Fund. I would love to talk with you about the importance of closing that "gap" in funding that exists between what we charge for tuition and the actual cost of keeping the lights on and paying our great teachers. It's a conversation worth having! I know 127 students who will agree with me when I say how grateful we all are to be a part of this Camperdown family.

🍏 SAM MCGEE, '88

Sam graduated from Clemson with a degree in Agricultural Mechanization and Agribusiness. He is the owner of Frederick Landscaping, a business located in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

🍏 CHARLIE STONE, '10

Charlie is a sophomore at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. He is studying animal science and plans to attend veterinarian school after graduation with a focus on exotic animals.

🍏 TYLER DALE, '05

Tyler was recently promoted to Assistant Marketing Manager for Techtronic Industries. She graduated from USC with a degree in Journalism and Mass Communications.



"I have become quite the Camperdown advocate. As an adult I can look back and see what a huge difference going to Camperdown made in my life. I learned so many amazing life lessons and skills that helped make me who I am today."

— Tyler Dale

JAGUAR ATHLETICS

The Camperdown Jaguars launched a new competitive sport this fall with the addition of a girl's volleyball team. D Group through Y Group girls are working with Coach Keri Kimbrough and Assistant Coach Chris Smith to develop a foundation for a solid program. Ann Copeland assists the team as the statistician/bookkeeper. The Lady Jaguars have played Greenville Homeschool, Easley Homeschool, Langston Charter, Spartanburg Prep, and Sandhills. The girls have made tremendous progress in their first year despite practicing on a grass field and playing games on indoor courts.

UPCOMING EVENTS



SUNDAY FUNDAY

We welcome all alumni, current families and teachers, as well as past staff, to join us from 12:30-3pm to HAVE A BALL at Sunday Funday.

Enjoy a BBQ meal, book fair, and fun with "Human Hamster Balls" (check out ZoomBall.net!). Contact the school at 864-244-8899 to let us know you are coming.



BOOK FAIR

The annual book fair is an opportunity to load up on reading material for the holidays! Tutors will make recommendations to parents about appropriate choices based on the students' current reading level. Teachers will post a "wish list" of books that can be purchased for use in the classroom.



SPECIAL FRIENDS DAY

This Open House is an opportunity for family and friends to tour Camperdown Academy. You can meet teachers, tour classrooms, and view student artwork and projects.

For all events, please visit www.camperdown.org for more information



A Peek Inside

A new focus on cross-curriculum units this year has students learning concepts that are reinforced across multiple subjects. A unit on symmetry has students working on the term congruent in math, while learning about the symmetrical design of butterflies in science, and working with watercolors to create visual symmetry in art. Math homework one night asked D Group students to find two congruent items at home and bring them to class to share. Other cross-curriculum units will focus on cell division, the Far East, and biomes.



Y Group at Camperdown Academy has entered the SCISA Drama Festival. They are performing a hilarious 30 minute original comedy about the first day of school at a technical college written by teacher Jimmy Tillery. The students are learning important concepts such as comedic timing and movement. The competition date is November 4th.



All Camperdown students are stretching their legs and building speed and endurance as they run the mile each week. The new "Mile Club" is an effort by teacher Susan Riener to encourage good exercise and healthy habits. Six trips around the lower field equals a mile and a really great workout! All students have the opportunity to either run or walk the mile once a week during morning recess. So far, the time to beat is 6 minutes 45 seconds.

Because of You...

Thanks to the generosity of supporters through the Fund-A-Need at the auction last May and a \$10,000 grant from the Wells Fargo Foundation, Camperdown Academy students have a lot of new computers to be thankful for! Laptops and computers dating as far back as 2007 were replaced and units were added to accommodate school growth. More than 45 new laptops were ordered over the summer as well as protective cases, chargers, and a new server to handle the additional traffic. Teachers are thrilled to have enough reliable computers for each child in a class. And Y Group students have each been assigned an iPad to use as part of their year-long preparation for transitioning to a traditional classroom.



Spotlight on Staff:

Operations Manager Daniel Nichols is revamping Camperdown Academy's online appearance. Check out the new website at www.camperdown.org where you can learn more about the school, the academic programs, and even a fun fact about all of the teachers. Daniel joined the Camperdown family a little more than a year ago and is responsible for a total overhaul of the web-based school management software with the installation of RenWeb. (And make sure to tell him congratulations...he just got married!)



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Annual Fund Donations (May 1 through August 31, 2015)

MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS

Elaine Hare-Sturm

Jimmie Gray
Jo and Bob Hackl
James and Betty Hill
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The Spinx Company, Inc.
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Evon Zuppa

TECHNOLOGY FUND

Wells Fargo

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

We love to brag about former students, but we have lost track of some! If you can help, please contact Kate Franch at kfranch@camperdown.org or 864-244-8899.

Beth Anderson	Laura Combs
Tom Arnold	Marshall DeGarmo
Bobby Augustine	Stephanie DeLoache
Patrick Boynton	Alexander Deutsche
Nick Brown	Chris Dion
Jonathan Camp	Ben Dorfman
Donnie Carter	Jeremy Dorfman
Vince Cavalcante	Mollie Dryden
Clif Chapman	Calley Dunn
Will Chapman	Johnny Eagleton



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