

Competitions and Unique Opportunities for Students at the Complex

- **Academic Bowl:** Students in grades 1-5 participate in the Brain Bowl. Homeroom classes divide out into smaller academic teams and compete against students from all other classes at their grade level. Points are equated to the level in which each team places in each competition category. The homeroom that has the most points is declared the Brain Bowl Champion for the school year.
- **Art:** All students in grades K-5 have art class as part of their special activity rotation. During art, students can create in various artistic styles and are exposed to art history.
- **Art Club:** Students in grades 3-5 that demonstrate an extraordinary interest and/or talent in visual arts may be invited to participate in Art Club. This club meets once a week in the morning before classes begin. Students work with multi-media to create original works of art.
- **Art Show:** All students in grades K-5 have the opportunity to display a piece of their original artwork in the spring art show.
- **Basketball Club:** Students in grades 4-5 interested in working on their skill in basketball are eligible to try out for membership in this club. Students participating work on the fundamental skills of the game once a week in the morning before classes begin.
- **Big Jacket Little Jacket Program:** Students K-5 in need of a mentor are paired with a buddy from Calhoun High School. Big Jackets visit with their little Jacket each week or two to establish a positive relationship and support the student in their academics and behavior.
- **Chorus:** Due to the large number of students interested in the musical arts, the Complex has two choral groups, the Stinger Singers (grades 2-3) and the Jacket Jammers (grades 4-5). Students in the designated grades may audition at the beginning of the school year to become a member. Choral groups perform in conjunction with many community service organizations. They also sing the National Anthem on several occasion throughout the year including a Rome Braves Game. The Jacket Jammers produce a musical production each year and present in May at the CPAC.
- **The Dewey Challenge:** All students in grades 3-5 are eligible to participate in the Dewey Challenge each year. Students that choose to accept the challenge work to read 25 books from the 10 classifications of the Dewey Decimal System. After reading each book, students must complete the corresponding AR test with a score of 80+. If an AR test is not available, students must complete the Dewey Challenge graphic organizer or do a Book Talk with the class.
- **Environmental Education Program:** Students in grades K-5 participate in a comprehensive Going Green initiative each year. Plastic, aluminum, paper, used markers, etc. are recycled Raised beds and a composting system gives students the

opportunity to be involved in a farm to table initiative. Students enhance the aesthetic of the campus in school-wide planting days adding tree, shrubs and bulbs.

- **FCA:** Fellowship of Christian Athletes is a student sponsored club open to children in grades 4-5. The club meets before school the last Friday of each month for the purpose of engaging, equipping and empowering participants to unite, inspire and change the world.
- **Georgia Student Technology Competition (GASTC):** GASTC is a statewide technology competition where students in grades 3-12 compete in a variety of technology categories. The goal of the program is to challenge students to become leaders in the digital age. Please visit gastc.org for additional details about this program. Students in grades 3-5 are eligible to participate in system level competition. Those that place move to the regional level and potentially have the opportunity to represent our school at state.
- **Huddle House Write to Win Program:** Students in grades K-5 may have their writing selected for display at our local Huddle House. Students writing samples are reviewed each month and 15 entries are selected to represent our school. Stories selected are framed and are placed tables at Huddle House for a month. A response journal accompanies the work giving a forum for patrons to leave positive feedback to the young authors. Student authors receive a free meal at Huddle House each day their work is on display.
- **Kindness Club:** Students in grade 2 maybe invited to join this club based on observation of their daily interactions and/or active participation in guidance classes. The club promotes ways to show kindness and school, home and among friends.
- **Odyssey of the Mind (OM):** OM is an international creative problem-solving program that engages students in their learning by allowing their knowledge and ideas to come to life in exciting and productive way. Students involved in OM practice during and after school as well as the weekends. They compete regionally, at the state level if placing and may even move on to World competition at the international level. Please visit odysseyofthemind.com for additional details about this program. Discovery students in grades 3-5 are eligible to try out for a team at the beginning of each school year.
- **Math Mania:** Math Mania is an annual school level math competition in grades 1-5. Students qualify to compete in Math Mania as a result of their winter MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) benchmark score. Students compete at the individual and group level. Medals are issued to the top three individual winners at each grade and each member of the winning team at each grade level.
- **Menlo Cross Country Race:** During physical education classes at the beginning of each school year, students in grades 3-5 train and then are given an opportunity to qualify by time for a slot at participation in the Menlo race.
- **Musical Productions:** All students in grades K-3 have the opportunity to perform in a grade level musical production presented at the Calhoun Performing Arts Center.

- **Newspaper Staff:** Students in grade 3-5 are eligible to apply for a position on the school newspaper staff. The student staff under the direction of a teacher produces a monthly newspaper called The Buzz which is distributed to students at the school.
- **Poster Contests:** Students grades K-5 have the opportunity to participate in various poster contest throughout the year. Two annual events include Drugs Don't Work and School Bus Safety. Students complete poster work during art class to coincide with given theme and specifications. Art work is judged and school level winners are designated. In the Drug's Don't Work competition, the K-2 and 3-5 winner has their work displayed at the Harris Art Center and on a community poster sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. One piece of art is selected K-2 and 3-5 for the School Bus Safety contest and submitted to the state for competition.
- **Project Based Learning (PBL):** All students in grade K-5 have PBL as part of their special activity rotation. PBL gives students the opportunity to engage in a high interest unit of study outside of their regular curriculum for an extended period of time. Students utilize critical and creative thinking skills while developing their ability to collaborate and communicate to complete given tasks and projects.
- **Rota Kids:** Rota Kids is club that provides kids 12 and under an opportunity to lead and engage in important and lively activities that will make a positive difference in their school and local community. Rota Kids helps students develop the ability and confidence to take their place in society as responsible, successful, effective citizens both now and in the future. This club is sponsored by the local Rotary Club and meets weekly after school. Students in grade 5 are eligible for participation through an application process.
- **Science Fair:** Students in grades 3-5 may enter a project in the school level Science Fair each year. Detailed step by step information about the process is communicated to students at the beginning of second semester. Project due dates are set and students participating meet with judges to explain their process. Medals are award to the top three projects in each grade.
- **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math):** Students in grades K-5 have STEM as part of their specials activity rotation. The school also designates full STEM days throughout the school year and a family STEM Night annually. In STEM, science, technology, engineering and math converge. Students work through the creative design process and learn through experimentation and adaptation. When this type of ingenuity and creativity pair, STEM leads students to the construction of new ideas and innovation.
- **STEM Club (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math):** Students in grades 3-5 that demonstrate an extraordinary interest and/or aptitude in science, technology, engineering and math have the opportunity to participate in STEM Club. This club meets once a week in the morning before classes begin. Students work at a deeper

level with the creative design process and have the opportunity for experiences outside of the school walls to enhance their learning in STEM domains.

- **Super Spellers and Spelling Bee:** Students in grade 2 may participate in Super Speller activities each year. These spelling activities are optional and are planned to enrich and challenge children in spelling. Students participating culminate their hard work with a special celebration at the end of the year. Students in grades 3-5 have the opportunity to earn a seat in the school spelling bee each year. Spelling is assessed in each classroom to determine who will represent to group. One student per classroom competes in the school level Spelling Bee held in the spring of the year. Medals are given to the top three places.
- **Technology Club:** Students in grades 3-5 may be a part of the school technology club. This club meets once a week in the morning before classes begin. Students participating have the opportunity to work with coding and programming as well as other specialized tech gadgets.
- **Young Georgia Authors (YGA):** The purpose of the YGA writing competition is to encourage students to develop enthusiasm for and expertise in their writing, to provide a context to celebrate their writing successes, and to recognize student achievement in arts and academics. Students in grades K-5 work through the writing process daily. Second semester a piece of writing is selected from each student for refinement. One story is selected per class to compete in the grade competition at the school level. Outside judges select the top piece of work at each grade level. School level winners proceed to the RESA level competition and RESA level winners move on to the state. For more information, visit galangartssup.weebly.com.
- **VEX Robotics Competition:** Students are tasked with designing and building a robot to play against other teams in a game-based engineering challenge. Tournaments are held year-round at the regional, state, and national levels and culminate at the VEX Robotics World Championship in April. Interested students in grades 4-5 involved in the Technology Club will be considered through performance-based tasks for a position on the VEX team.