

James A. Cawood

GEAR UP Promise Zone

279 Ball Park Road, Harlan, Kentucky 40831

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Dear Reader:

We have started a newsletter for James A. Cawood Elementary School to highlight events and activities for the GEAR UP program.

GEAR UP stands for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs. It is a grant funded by Berea College, Partners for Education.

This program follows a group of students from sixth grade to their freshman year in college. It emphasizes college readiness through academic success and the building of a college-going culture. Services include:

- in-school tutoring
- career exploration
- test preparation
- college visits
- career site visits
- mentoring
- family engagement activities

Academic Specialist

Karen Phillips

TROJANS



Upcoming Events

March 7

- End of Third Nine Weeks
- Math Benchmark Test

March 9

- 8th Grade High School Orientation and Class sign-up
- Parent Teacher Conference 3 to 5

March 15

- Science KPREP Field Test 4th and 7th grades

March 27 - 31

- Spring Break Week
(Make-up Days if Needed)

“All Day Every Day”

Attendance is Important

When students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for graduating high school.

www.attendanceworks.org



College Visit News – The University of the Cumberlands

Students in the eighth grade at James A. Cawood Elementary School had the opportunity to visit the campus of the University of the Cumberlands in Williamsburg, Kentucky. Twenty-six students attended a day long visit learning more about the campus life and areas of study at the Cumberlands. Teachers chaperoning the trip were Mr. Ben Johnson, teacher; Mr. Joey Hubbs, teacher; and Karen Phillips, academic specialist.

In the auditorium students attended orientation by getting familiar with the college through a multi-media presentation. JACES students then were paired in small groups with college students for a scavenger hunt for points of interest around campus. Students also visited the new and old gymnasiums as the Patriots prepared for a home basketball game. Those on the tour learned the history of the college and its founders.

While visiting, eighth graders toured the student center and had lunch at the school's cafeteria. Students then returned to the auditorium for a question and answer session regarding financial aid, admission requirements, academic performance and the importance of the ACT test as a junior in high school.

73% of UC's students are from Kentucky. University of the Cumberlands also has students from 36 other states and 24 countries.



With 40 different majors and minors plus pre-professional programs, the possibility of directions to take is equal to your drive and curiosity. If you are uncertain about a major, your liberal arts education allows you to explore options.

A liberal arts education is a broad-based education in which a student studies a variety of different subjects in addition to concentrating on a particular area of study. The liberal arts education prepares the student for a lifetime of opportunities and changes.

Tuition and Fees for 2016-17

Freshmen and New Transfer Student rates for the 2016-2017 school year are:

Tuition & Fees: \$23,000 per year
Room & Board: \$9,000

Reading at Any Age

- 1. Children understand at a higher level than they can read.** Learners can typically comprehend text that is 2 or more grade levels above their independent reading level.
- 2. Build vocabulary.** The more words you use, the more words a child knows and can use. Children's books have been shown to use more unique words than television, movies, or other media. New words encountered in context are easier to define and understand.
- 3. Improved achievement.** Numerous studies show a direct correlation between reading to a child and academic success. Students who are read to have a higher aptitude for learning and more positive attitude about school.
- 4. Develop a love of reading.** Research shows that motivation, interest, and engagement are enhanced when reading aloud. This can improve children's attitudes about books and foster a love of reading.
- 5. Help them be better writers.** Linguistic information is best stored in the brain auditory. Children who listen to books being read over many years are more likely to develop competence in written and verbal communication skills.
- 6. Help us talk about tough issues.** When you have to talk to your child about a difficult topic, books (both fiction and nonfiction) can be useful. For parents, a book can help lessen anxiety; for the child, a book can provide context and make it easier to ask questions.
- 7. Broadens their horizons.** When children pick their own books, they tend to pick the same type of texts (over and over. Children tend to be more open to new genres and themes when read aloud.
- 8. Improve decision-making.** When reading with your child, you have the opportunity to discuss topics and ideas that might not come up in the normal course of events. Children's author Katherine Patterson said, "Books are a dress rehearsal for life." You
- 9. Bonding time.** Spending time reading with your child is an opportunity to get closer, both physically and emotionally. Even if you don't snuggle up, just being close to your child to share a book can foster deep bonding.
- 10. Your child wants you to.** 83% of children across all age groups say they love to be read to.



