

# The Junior Raider Review

Volume 6, Issue 2

November 2010

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## History of Columbus Day

*Caleb Almeter*

Everyone knows that Columbus discovered America, right? Well, basically, he did. But there are some facts that everyone seems to overlook.

For one thing, Christopher Columbus isn't even his real name. It's actually Cristoforo Columbo. He was born in Genoa, Italy, and he had four younger siblings.

For one that would be held in so much fame later, Columbus hardly went to school at all. However, he loved the ocean. He dreamed of going to sea

"Columbus began to believe that the earth was not flat"

during his childhood.

Then he traveled to Portugal and Greece. He became a sailor in his early teens, but in 1476, French pirates attacked a ship that Columbus was a crewman on. He managed to grab a piece of the wreckage of his ship, and swam six miles to shore. Then Columbus went to

Lisbon, Portugal. His brother Bartholomew owned a bookstore there. While he was there, Columbus read everything he could about mapmaking and navigation. He especially enjoyed Marco Polo's writings of his journey to Asia in the year 1271. Columbus began to believe that the earth was not flat, but if one sailed east on the Atlantic Ocean (At the time they called it the "Sea of Darkness") they would eventually arrive in Asia, (Don't forget, no European knew of the Americas' existence.) and it would be much shorter than sailing around the southern tip of Africa.

However, when Columbus tried to get King John of Portugal to fund his trip in 1484, the king refused. Instead, Columbus went to the rulers of Spain- King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella. After a few tries, he convinced them to pay for his voyage.

The king and queen of Spain gave Columbus three ships- the Nina, Pinta, and the Santa Maria, along with crews for each and supplies. Columbus set out across the Sea of Darkness (Remember, it's really the Atlantic) to find Asia.

For a month, Columbus and his crew sailed without any sight of land. The crew's morale dropped. Some talked of turning back, and others even threatened to push Columbus overboard and return to Spain. However, Columbus knew that land must be near. There are seabirds around, and they need land nearby to survive. But even the great explorer himself gets impatient. According to his calculations, they should have spotted land days ago. He offers a reward to the first one to see land.

After a few more days, the three ships reached land! Columbus named it San Salvador. He believed that Japan was a short distance to the west. (Again, don't forget that nobody knew of the Americas' existence.)

On this island, Columbus and his crew found some strange people who wore little clothing. Columbus' ships amazed them, but Columbus in turn was amazed when he saw that some of them were wearing gold! The people told him that gold could be found on more islands to the north and south. (By the way, Columbus was actually in [*continued on page 2*]

# Library Notes

Mrs. Bettis



## Message in a Minute from the Library



Recently in homerooms the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade completed a library survey to provide input about library resources and activities. Thank you for this feedback! I will take all suggestions into consideration to help improve your library and its programs.

There are now pictures on the library website of the renovation from this past summer as well as other interesting items for you to take a look at. To access: Go to the Fulton Website, click on “Fulton Jr. High,” then click on the blue library link in the center of the page. There are tabs on the left to click on!

A few items of interest/reminders:

- Library Helpers have begun assisting with various tasks around the library. Their help is greatly appreciated!
- Battle of the Books group has also begun. It is still not too late to join. Stop in the library to pick up a packet!
- New books have started to arrive-check out the display cart just inside the door!

Mrs. Bettis  
Teacher Librarian

## History of Columbus Day (continued)

*Caleb Almeter*

the Bahamas.)

Columbus searched many islands, but he didn't find a trace of gold, only more native people. He knew that the King and Queen would not be happy if he returned with no gold, but unfortunately, their search was fruitless.

As Columbus prepared to return to Spain, the Santa Maria hit a coral reef, and he and his crew could not save it. They built a fort out of its remains, and forty men stayed behind to form a colony. With only two ships, there wasn't enough room for everyone to return.

When Columbus arrived in Spain, the King and Queen made him admiral of the Ocean Sea, and governor of all the islands he had discovered. He is a hero! However, he is anxious to go back, and find the gold he believes is there.

A few months later, in 1493, Columbus set off on his second voyage. After about a year of sailing, he found his colony from the first voyage- dead! He never found out what had happened to them, but he did build a new colony on a different island. They found gold on that island, and Columbus sent a load back to Spain. Despite that, the king and queen threw Columbus in jail in 1501 because the people in the new colony complained that he was not a good governor. Columbus is outraged!

In 1504, the king and queen realized their mistake, and freed him from jail, and paid for another voyage, where he was stranded in Jamaica for a year. It was his final voyage, and he died on May 20, 1506. There is no doubt that Cristoforo Columbo was one of the greatest explorers ever.

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### *A Message from the Principals*

*Dear Junior High Families,*

*Fall is such a beautiful time of year. We hope that all of our families are taking advantage of the fall foliage and changing weather! Our fall modified sports teams have just finished their seasons, and it was great to see so many students enjoying their participation on a team and learning about their sport. Job well done!*

*Our first School Spirit Day was a hit! So many of our students came to school in their red & green and showed their spirit for our school and district. We look forward to doing this again in the spring.*

*Everyone should have received a Progress Report that shows how your child is doing mid way through the first marking period. Please take time to review your child's academic progress with him/her on a regular basis. Our first marking period ends Friday November 12<sup>th</sup> with report cards going in the mail Friday November 19<sup>th</sup>. In addition to these reports, you are able to view your child's progress at anytime online using MyGradeBook.com. We have heard positive feedback from parents and students about this reporting system, and we are pleased to see that students seem to be more aware of their progress. Please contact one of your child's teachers if you need or forgot the password. If you do not have access to the internet and would like access, please call/email me and I would be happy to make arrangements for you to use our computers at school.*

*We are pleased with the discussions that have been occurring in homerooms regarding bullying and the effects bullying can have on so many students. We have held formal discussions/activities on the two Early Release days that included creating posters (take a walk through our school and check them out!) and identifying areas within our building that may be considered "hot zones" for bullying to occur. I commend our staff and students for their efforts with this sensitive topic.*

*Please be sure to check our November dates, as school will not be in session November 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. Please be aware that there is an error in the revised calendar you received. **There is NOT an early release day on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.** We apologize for any confusion these errors have caused. We also encourage you to check our website for dates and events, and if you still have questions, please feel free to call our office or email us. You should never be left wondering about anything when it comes to your child's education, but we do encourage you to check with your child first as this does help build responsibility.*

*As Thanksgiving approaches, we take this opportunity to say "Thank You" for the support that you give to your children and to our school. We wish all of our families well, and hope that you enjoy this time with family and friends.*

*Thank you for your continued support of our students and our school.*

*Sincerely,*

*Donna Parkhurst and Ryan Lanigan*

## **Nurse's Notes**

Mrs. Stoutenger

The month of November has been named American Diabetes Month. This is the time to communicate the seriousness of diabetes and the importance of prevention and control. There are nearly 24 million children and adults living with Diabetes in the United States. An additional 57 million Americans are at risk for being diagnosed with Diabetes. One out of every 3 children born will be diagnosed with Diabetes if the current trend continues. What can you do to help? Your lifestyle is the main thing you can control. You can increase your activity, eat more fiber, and eat foods with whole grains. Increasing your activity will help you lose weight and maintain healthy blood sugars. Eating more fiber will make you feel full and you won't feel the need to eat foods with empty calories or filled with carbohydrates. Please browse <http://www.diabetes.org/> for more details.

There is a new club starting called 24/7 Challenge. We will offer snacks and activities like hopscotch, four squares, and basketball shooting to the students. Students are encouraged to come and participate. The students will be deciding what foods we will try, what games we will play, and when or how often we will meet. Please see Mrs. Stoutenger or Miss Manning for more details and a parent permission slip. Our first meeting will be held in Room 110 from 2:30-3:00. We are looking to meet at least every Monday.

We have successfully finished our vision and hearing screenings. Please have your son/daughter seen if you received a referral home. Vision serves as the major avenue for learning and hearing the teachers during instruction time is crucial. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. There are still seventh graders that need the required 7th grade physical to be completed as well. Please set up an appointment with your primary doctor.

**Have a Great Thanksgiving Feast and remember those healthy choices!**

## **Ask Magix**

**Red Raiders of Jr. high! ATTENTION:**

I am putting up an advice and tips column in the Jr. Raider for those who wish to participate!

### Instructions:

1. Write your question on a piece of paper.
2. Place it in the Box. (Within the cafeteria, it will be announced that week.)

The question box will be out only one week per month!  
I will answer two to three questions per newsletter.

**Thank you!**

# Get Your Year Book

By Mrs. Curtis

IT'S TIME TO ORDER YOUR  
**FULTON JR  
HIGH  
YEARBOOK**

Cost of each yearbook is \$17

**Yearbooks are now full color!**

School pictures will be taken October 7<sup>th</sup>  
with retakes on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

How to purchase your yearbook:

1. Logon to [www.jostens.com](http://www.jostens.com) and click the link "purchase your yearbook" (credit card orders only)
2. Send check/cash to FJHS/Mrs. Curtis (Yearbook Advisor) to place an order.



## What's going on?

*We want to know!*

Submit your articles, information, and events to the Jr. Raider Review. You can drop them off to Mr. Weigand in room 106.

**Thank you for your support!!!**

## Yearbook Sales Slip *(needed for cash or check)*

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ Total \_\_\_\_\_