

Blazer Bits

Pre-K through 3rd Grade



Look at the Week Ahead FOR PreK-3rd Grade Parents

Monday, April 6:

- Happy Birthday, Coach Cowart and Mrs. Robinson! We love you!!
- AWAY Varsity Softball Game vs. AL Johnson @ 4:30 pm
- AWAY Varsity and Junior High Baseball Games vs. Hale County @ 4:30 pm
- YMCA Summer Camp Info Meeting in UCS Lyon Auditorium @ 5:30 pm

Tuesday, April 7:

- Happy Birthday, Mrs. Luker! We love having you at UCS!!
- HOME Varsity Softball Game vs. Holy Spirit @ 4:30 pm

Wednesday, April 8:

- Book Club @ 11:00 am
- 2026-2027 Enrollment Lottery in UCS Smith Conference Room @ 12:00 pm
- Students Dismiss @ 1:00 pm
- CMA Dance in UCS Lyon Auditorium
 - 12:30-1:30 Boys Tumble (2 groups; see calendar or email from Mrs. Dunn)
 - 1:00-2:00 2nd Grade Girls
 - 2:00-3:00 PreK, K, 1st, and 3rd Grade Girls

Thursday, April 9:

- Happy Birthday, Ms. AK, Ms. Gurley, and Mrs. Nesha! We are so thankful for you at UCS Lyon!!
- HOME Junior High and Varsity Baseball Games vs. Sweetwater @ 5:00 pm
- AWAY JV Softball Game vs. Tuscaloosa Academy @ 5:00 pm

Friday, April 10:

- Blue Friday for Child Abuse Awareness Month! Students can pay \$1 to wear BLUE!!



BLUE April 10th
FRIDAY

Pay \$1 to wear a blue shirt and Jeans!

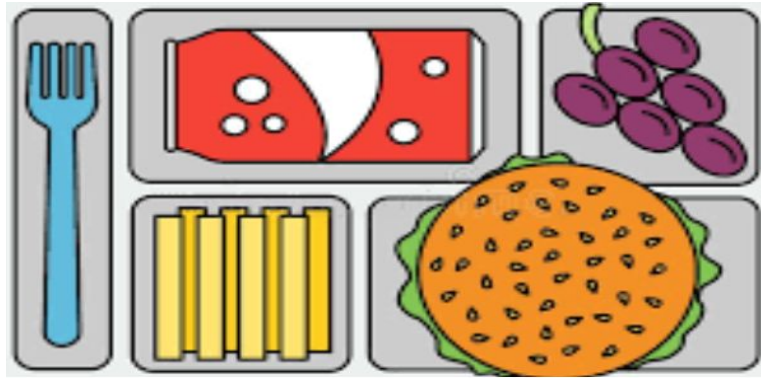
APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

All proceeds will go to support the work of the BlackBelt Regional Child Advocacy Center as they provide a safe, child friendly place where children impacted with abuse and neglect find hope and healing.

The poster features a young boy in a blue shirt holding a blue ribbon. There are two blue handprints, one above the other, on the right side. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene.

UCS LYON

Breakfast and Lunch



[MealViewer Schools](#)



If you see something that is yours, please visit the Lost & Found in the lunchroom front foyer.





Important Health Reminder for Parents

To help keep all of our students healthy, please remember that children must be **fever-free and/or free from vomiting for at least 24 hours before returning to school**. This means **24 hours without fever-reducing medication** and no additional episodes of vomiting.

If a student returns to school before the 24-hour period has passed, there is a higher chance they may still be contagious and could spread illness to classmates and staff.

We appreciate your help in keeping our school community healthy by allowing your child the proper time to recover before returning to school. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school nurse.

Thank you for your cooperation!

NOTES FROM THE NURSE

APRIL 2026 - HEALTHY HABITS ARE BLOOMING

SUN SAFETY AWARENESS

- Start using sunscreen (30 spf or higher) during outdoor activities
- Wear hats and sunglasses
- Reapply sunscreen every 2 hours
- Remember you can still get sun on cloudy days

ALLERGY SELF-MANAGEMENT

- Recognize allergy triggers - dust, pollen, weather changes
- Take medicines consistently
- Remember to carry inhalers or allergy meds if allowed to do so!!

SPRING WELLNESS

Spring allergies may start to appear this month. If your child has allergy or asthma concerns, please be sure health plans and medications are up to date. Simple steps like washing hands and faces after outdoor play can help reduce symptoms and keep students feeling their best.

Spring is a great time for a reset. With busy schedules, don't forget the basics — sleep, hydration, and taking breaks. Small habits can make a big difference in how you feel each day. If you're feeling overwhelmed, reach out — you're not alone, and I'm always here to help..

NURSE'S CORNER

IMPORTANT DATES

4/5: Easter Sunday
4/6-4/9: ACAP (4-8th grade)
4/24: NO SCHOOL



Kristen Beard BSN, RN - UCS Lead Nurse
e: kbeard@universitycharterschool.org

APRIL 2026 | GIANT PANDA

HONOR

Letting others know
you see how valuable
they really are



©2025/2026 CORE ESSENTIALS, INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Our Big Idea for March was HUMILITY - Putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve. Each PreK - 3rd grade teacher was asked to select a student from his or her classroom that best exemplified HUMILITY during March to be their Character Kid of the Month.

Each Character Kid receives a certificate, a tag for their backpack, and a token for the book vending machine.

MARCH 2026 | BLUE WHALE

HUMILITY

Putting others first by
giving up what you think
you deserve



©2025/2026 CORE ESSENTIALS, INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED



HUMILITY

Character Kids for March

PRE-K

Eli Hoggle
Akeelah Parker
Kenlynn Nelson
Kingston Johnson

KINDERGARTEN

Zonique Patterson
Steven Wrenn

SPED

Jayden Coats

1st GRADE

Grady Elmore
Ayah Conley
Israel Burton
Callie Hilchey
Samuel Reid

2nd GRADE

Jayce Nelson
Saylor Hutchings
Arielle Childers
Lacey Lewis

3rd GRADE

Tucker Ozment
Aubree Nixon
Kensley Bryant
Jaime Darden



*As it's beginning to get cooler, don't forget about these items available from the House Store!
House sweatshirts are approved UCS gear!*



T-Shirts

40 points or \$20

Sweatshirts

50 points or \$30

Blankets

50 points or \$30

These items will be made-to-order. Once order is placed and payment received the order will be placed with the vendor. Quick turn-around time is anticipated!

All items available for all house!

*Contact Mrs. Meadows to order at
cmeadows@universitycharterschool.org*

A Message from the Blackbelt Regional Child Advocacy Center...



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, and the Blackbelt Regional Child Advocacy Center invites our community to stand together for children.

They encourage schools, businesses, and community members across Sumter, Greene, and Marengo Counties to wear their blue shirt every Friday in April to raise awareness for child abuse prevention and to show support for the children and families in our community.

One way to participate is by wearing their Child Abuse Awareness shirt throughout the month of April.

When you wear blue, we encourage you to:

- Take a photo with your coworkers, students, or friends
 - Share it on Facebook
 - Tell us why you wear blue
- Tag BlackBelt Regional Child Advocacy Center

Together, we can raise awareness and help ensure that every child grows up in a safe and supportive environment.

Order Here: [BBRCAC T-Shirt Order Form](#)



UCS is excited to partner with the YMCA of Tuscaloosa to provide extended camp opportunities for the **WHOLE Summer.**

YMCA Camp @ UWA will replace our previously hosted Summer STREAM Camps. Join us on **APRIL 6** at Lyon Hall to learn more about camp, meet the YMCA team and get registered!

For more information email Jamie Fritch (jfritch@ymcatusc.org)

Summer Camp Student Info



**Parent info session
APRIL 6 @ 5:30 Lyon Hall**

THE Find Your *Best Friend* **PLACE**

Day camp is more than just summer fun—it's where kids build lasting friendships, celebrate achievements, and discover a place they can truly belong. Guided by trusted staff, campers can look forward to:

- 10 weeks, 7:00am-6:00pm
- Sports, and outdoor play
- Creative art and STEM projects
- And so much more!

We are excited to announce that **C&J Resources** is now enrolling for our **Summer Workshops and Tutoring Program** for students in **Pre-K–12th grade!**

Our summer programs are designed to keep students engaged, build confidence, and strengthen academic skills in a fun and supportive environment.

Summer Workshop Options (June–July):

Reading & Math Workshops

9:00 AM–12:00 PM or 1:30 PM–4:30 PM

\$350 Early Bird (register by May 15) per student/per workshop | \$375 per student/per workshop

STEM Discovery Workshop

9:00 AM–3:00 PM Monday through Thursday

\$150 per student

18 hours of instruction

Hands-on learning activities

Snacks provided

Certificate of Completion

Summer Tutoring Available

Monday–Thursday

9:00 AM–5:30 PM

Small group and individualized instruction available to meet your child's needs.

NEW: Blueprint to Success – College & Career Course (for older students)

July 27–30

9:00 AM–2:00 PM

\$200 per student

Includes resume building, interview preparation, LinkedIn setup, and more!

Spots are limited, and we encourage early registration to secure your child's place.

Register today: <https://forms.gle/H2QZem6fMTP9wX6YA>

A vibrant poster for a STEM Discovery Workshop. The background is white with a purple and yellow border. It features various STEM-related icons: a laptop, a calculator, a magnifying glass, a globe, a rocket, a pencil with an astronaut, a molecular model, a network diagram, a microscope, and a gear. The text is centered and reads: "C&J Resources presents: STEM DISCOVERY WORKSHOP JUNE 15TH - 18TH 9AM - 3PM COST: \$150 PER STUDENT GRADES: K- 8TH TUSCALOOSA COUNTY". Below the text, there are two illustrations of a young boy in a white lab coat. On the left, he is looking through a magnifying glass. On the right, he is holding a molecular model. At the bottom, there is a list of workshop activities and a sponsor box.

C&J Resources presents:

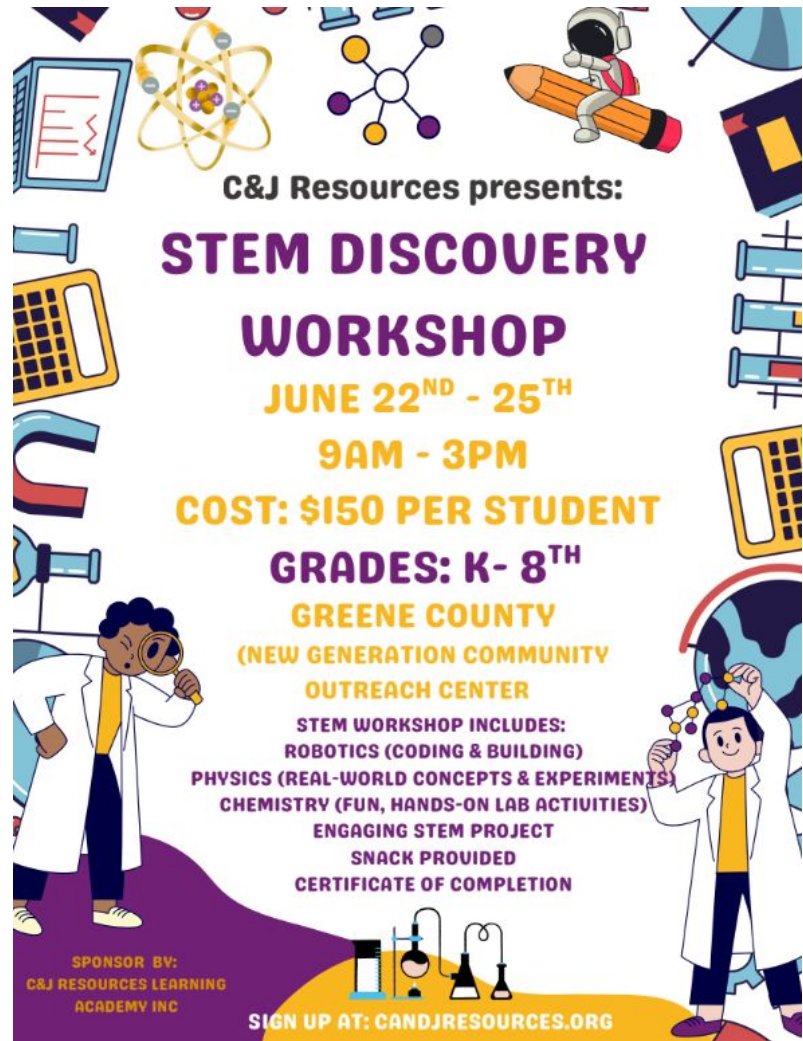
STEM DISCOVERY WORKSHOP

JUNE 15TH - 18TH
9AM - 3PM
COST: \$150 PER STUDENT
GRADES: K- 8TH
TUSCALOOSA COUNTY

STEM WORKSHOP INCLUDES:
ROBOTICS (CODING & BUILDING)
PHYSICS (REAL-WORLD CONCEPTS & EXPERIMENTS)
CHEMISTRY (FUN, HANDS-ON LAB ACTIVITIES)
ENGAGING STEM PROJECT
SNACK PROVIDED
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

SPONSOR BY:
C&J RESOURCES LEARNING
ACADEMY INC

SIGN UP AT: CANDJRESOURCES.ORG

A vibrant poster for a STEM Discovery Workshop. The background is white with a purple and yellow border. It features various STEM-related icons: a laptop, a calculator, a magnifying glass, a globe, a rocket, a pencil with an astronaut, a molecular model, a network diagram, a microscope, and a gear. The text is centered and reads: "C&J Resources presents: STEM DISCOVERY WORKSHOP JUNE 22ND - 25TH 9AM - 3PM COST: \$150 PER STUDENT GRADES: K- 8TH GREENE COUNTY (NEW GENERATION COMMUNITY OUTREACH CENTER)". Below the text, there are two illustrations of a young boy in a white lab coat. On the left, he is looking through a magnifying glass. On the right, he is holding a molecular model. At the bottom, there is a list of workshop activities and a sponsor box.

C&J Resources presents:

STEM DISCOVERY WORKSHOP

JUNE 22ND - 25TH
9AM - 3PM
COST: \$150 PER STUDENT
GRADES: K- 8TH
GREENE COUNTY
(NEW GENERATION COMMUNITY
OUTREACH CENTER)

STEM WORKSHOP INCLUDES:
ROBOTICS (CODING & BUILDING)
PHYSICS (REAL-WORLD CONCEPTS & EXPERIMENTS)
CHEMISTRY (FUN, HANDS-ON LAB ACTIVITIES)
ENGAGING STEM PROJECT
SNACK PROVIDED
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

SPONSOR BY:
C&J RESOURCES LEARNING
ACADEMY INC

SIGN UP AT: CANDJRESOURCES.ORG

C & J Resources Presents to you:

Splash Into Reading Workshop

June 2nd - June 11th

Grades Pre-K - 8th

July 7th - July 16th

Grades Pre-K - 8th

(Tuesday-Thursday)

Times: 9am-12pm or 1:30pm-4:30pm

Early Bird: \$350 per student

(register by May 15)

Cost: \$375 per student,

Reading Workshop Includes:

- Diagnostic Test
- Snack provided
- 18 hours of reading instruction
- Certificate of Completion

Sign up at: candjresources.org

C & J Resources Presents to you:

Splash Into Math Workshop

June 23rd - July 2nd

Grades Pre-K - 8th

(Tuesday-Thursday)

Times: 9am-12pm or 1:30pm-4:30pm

Early Bird: \$350 per student

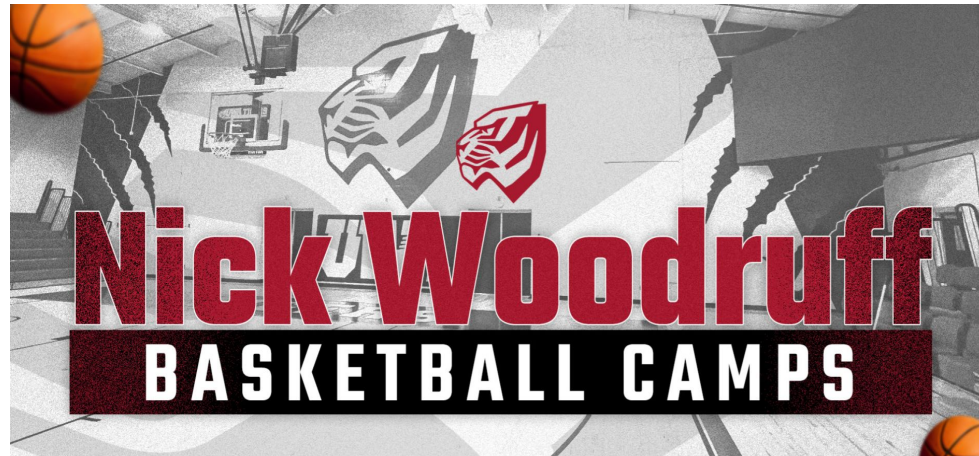
(register by May 15)

Cost: \$375 per student,

Math Workshop Includes:

- Diagnostic Test
- Snack provided
- 18 hours of reading instruction
- Certificate of Completion

Sign up at: candjresources.org



Here are the dates and cost of our camps for this summer:

Kids Camp

05/26/2026 - 05/27/2026

K - 12th

Grade as of Fall 2026

\$75.00

Elite Camp 1 (Boys Only)

05/30/2026

9th - 12th

Grade as of Fall 2026

\$80.00

Elite Camp 2 (Boys Only)

06/20/2026

9th - 12th

Grade as of Fall 2026

\$80.00

Here is also the link for the camps:

<https://www.nickwoodruffbasketballcamps.com/>

LIFEWISE ACADEMY



WANT TO SEE A BIBLE EDUCATION PROGRAM STARTED FOR LOCAL STUDENTS?

LifeWise Academy offers Bible education for public school students during school hours. Almost no one knows this is possible. LifeWise provides a program that any community can implement to reach students with the gospel. LifeWise classes are held off school property, privately funded and parent-permitted.

Yes, I would like to see a
LifeWise Academy
started in my school
district!

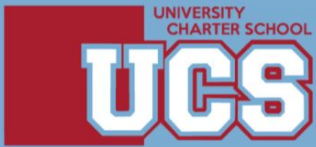


Voice your support by scanning
the QR code and signing your
school district's list.



Join Your Local Steering Committee.
Learn more and **Apply now!**





PARENT CONNECT Spring 2026 Dates

Date	Topic(s)	Relevant Audience	Location	Time
1/5/26	On-Site Uniform Sale	PreK-12	Smith Cafeteria	12:20-4:20 PM
1/22/26	Black Belt Regional Child Advocacy Center	All Parents	Lyon Auditorium	5:30 PM
2/3/26	CTE Month Highlight / Open House	7-9	Smith CTE classrooms	3:30 PM - 5:30 PM
April 6	Summer Camp Updates & Registration	K-12	Lyon Hall Auditorium	5:30 PM
4/28/26	Secondary Programs Night	6-12	Smith Gym	TBA
5/16/26	Graduation	All	Smith Gym	TBA
5/18/26	Smith Awards Day	4-12	Smith Gym	TBA
5/19/26	Lyon Awards Day	1-3	Lyon Auditorium	TBA

This graphic will be updated with exact times and dates as the events get closer. Additional events may be added. Please continue to check the weekly bulletins and emails from UCS with more details for each event.

SCAN HERE TO JOIN PTA TODAY!

\$10 PER FAMILY



UCS Spring 2026 PTA Newsletter

We are LEADERS, We are INNOVATORS, We are TRAILBLAZERS!



We hope you've had a wonderful year so far at UCS!

Thanks to your support, so far this year the UCS PTA was able to celebrate and support our amazing staff & students through many special ways such as:

- 🍲 Fall Staff Soup & Salad Bar
- 🍪 Milk & Cookies with Santa
- 📌 Student Incentives for attendance and ACT achievement
- 💙 Teacher-led initiatives awarded through our PTA mini grants.

Thank you for helping make our school so special!



Calling Volunteers-

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 4-8!
The UCS PTA will be looking for volunteers to help make this a wonderful week for our incredible teachers and staff.

Mark your calendars and watch for ways to get involved or email PTA today.

*We ♥ our
Volunteers*

2025-2026 PTA Contacts:

Kimberly Fendley (President), Jill Whitaker (Vice President)
Contact Us @ ucspta@universitycharterschool.org

Important Dates coming up at UCS

April 28-29 Secondary Programs Advising Days

May 4-8 Teacher Appreciation Week

May 16 UCS Graduation

May 18 Smith Awards Day

May 19 Lyon Awards Day



Get involved!



Join the UCS PTA TODAY



Help **Child Find** Locate Children with Disabilities

What Is **Child Find**?

Child Find is a statewide effort by the Alabama State Department of Education and the Department of Rehabilitation Services to locate, identify, and evaluate children with disabilities from birth to age 21.

How Does **Child Find** Work?

Early Intervention and Special Education Services work closely with community service agencies, parents, and local school systems to locate children with disabilities. A toll-free number is provided for parents or other persons interested in information about referring a child from birth to age 21.

Why Is **Child Find** Important?

It helps the child, the family, and the provider to plan appropriate services and link families to services for students meeting eligibility requirements in the following disability areas:

- ☐ Hearing Impairment
- ☐ Deaf-Blindness
- ☐ Intellectual Disability
- ☐ Multiple Disabilities
- ☐ Orthopedic Impairment
- ☐ Other Health Impairment
- ☐ Emotional Disability
- ☐ Speech and Language Impairment
- ☐ Visual Impairment
- ☐ Specific Learning Disabilities
- ☐ Autism
- ☐ Traumatic Brain Injury
- ☐ Developmental Delay

For more information about **Child Find**, contact your local school system, local coordinating council, or call

(205) 652-3848

Ages 3-21

1-800-543-3098
Birth through 2



Alabama State Department of Education
Eric G. Mackey, Ed. D.
State Superintendent of Education