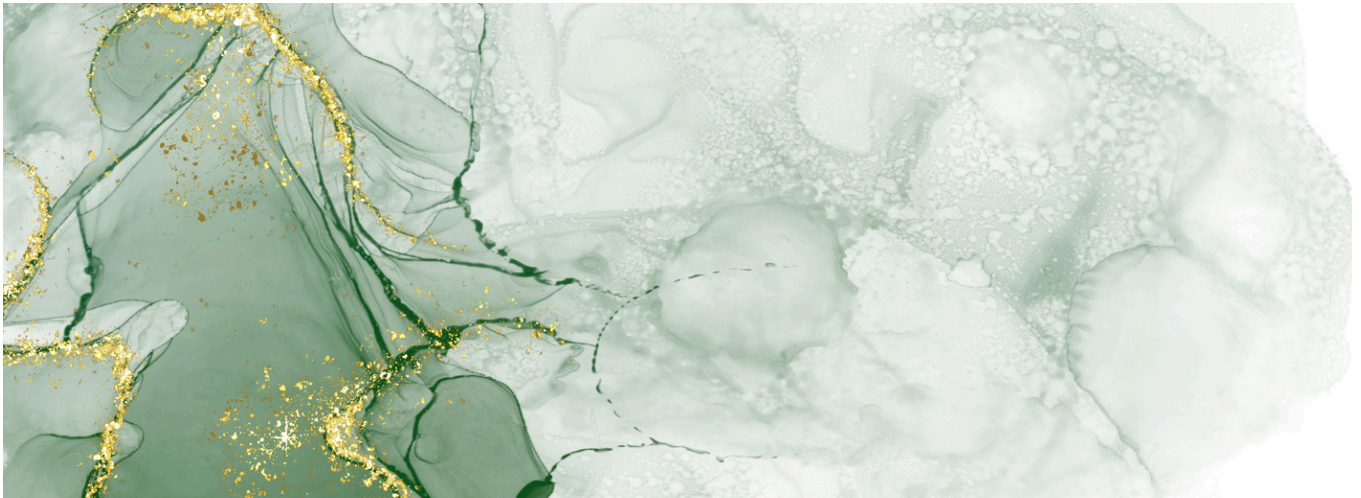




Health Sciences

NEWSLETTER



VGCC SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES HOSTS SUMMER CAMP

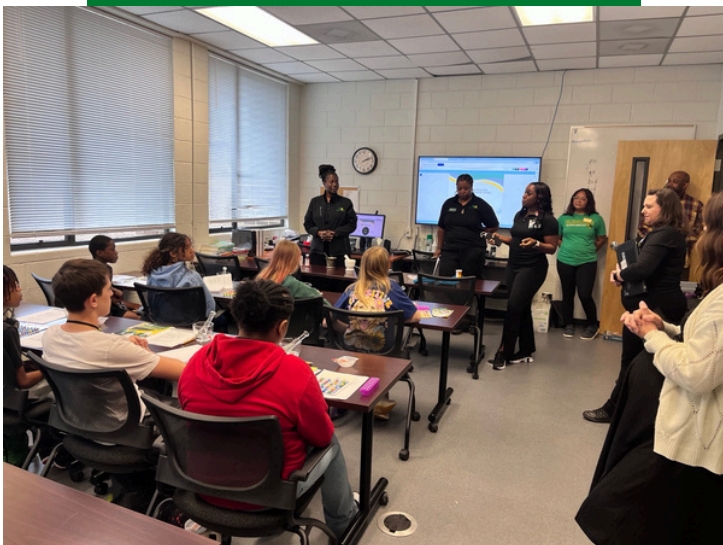
The Vance-Granville Community College (VGCC) School of Health Sciences (SHS) proudly hosted its first-ever SHS Summer Camp from May 27–29. Eight rising 7th grade students from Butner-Stem Middle School attended the camp, which ran daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Over the three days, students engaged in hands-on activities and interactive learning experiences designed to introduce them to the wide variety of educational and career opportunities available through VGCC's SHS programs. The camp provided a fun and informative environment where students could explore their interests in healthcare and gain early exposure to the world of health sciences.

DAY ONE

Introductions and Ice Breakers

The three-day SHS Summer Camp began with warm introductions of faculty and staff, setting a welcoming tone for participants. Campers then jumped into a fun icebreaker game, tossing a ball around to music. When the music stopped, the student holding the ball answered trivia questions on health science topics—a playful way to break the ice and assess their knowledge as the camp got underway.



Learning from a Pharmacy Pro
Campers enjoyed an engaging session with Dr. Erica Fleming, Program Head of Pharmacy Technology. During the session, students learned about the importance of following medication regimens, the different roles of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians, and how some medications are made. To make the lesson even sweeter, Dr. Fleming handed out candy, which the students used to practice trituration skills using the mortar and pestle, the most recognized and utilized tools in Pharmacy.



DAY ONE (CONT.)

Hands-On with Nursing Faculty

Students had the opportunity to rotate through four interactive stations led by the SHS nursing faculty.

The stations focused on key clinical skills:

1. Temperature and Pulse
2. Blood Pressure
3. Respirations and Pulse Oximetry
4. First Aid

At each station, students learned how to take vital signs, understood normal value ranges, and explored basic first aid techniques. It was a valuable, hands-on experience that gave campers a glimpse into the daily responsibilities of healthcare professionals.



Exploring the World of Histotechnology

Campers were introduced to the fascinating field of histotechnology by Dr. Erica Fleming, where they had the chance to play tissue detective and learn how tissues are prepared and examined, skills that they would need in a later activity! The session highlighted how histotechnologists play a crucial role in diagnosing diseases and supporting patient care—giving students a deeper appreciation for this behind-the-scenes but essential healthcare specialty.



DAY TWO

A Closer Look at Radiography

Students dove into the world of radiography with Mrs. Jamisha Twitty and Dr. Angela Thomas. They learned about various positioning techniques used in imaging, how radiography supports the diagnosis, treatment, and management of diseases, and the basic mechanics of how X-ray machines work. The session also emphasized the importance of radiography safety, including how to protect both patients and healthcare workers from unnecessary radiation exposure. To top it off, students even got to practice using real x-ray equipment—giving them hands-on experience with the tools of the trade and a deeper understanding of this essential healthcare field.

Understanding the Human Side of Healthcare

Students explored the vital role of human services in healthcare through a thoughtful and interactive session that began with a calming icebreaker—coloring. This creative activity served as both a stress reliever and a way to ease into deeper conversations.

They then rotated through three reflective stations:

1. Sharing a time they experienced a struggle and how they overcame it
2. Identifying and celebrating positive attributes in themselves and others
3. Recognizing individual differences as valuable and positive

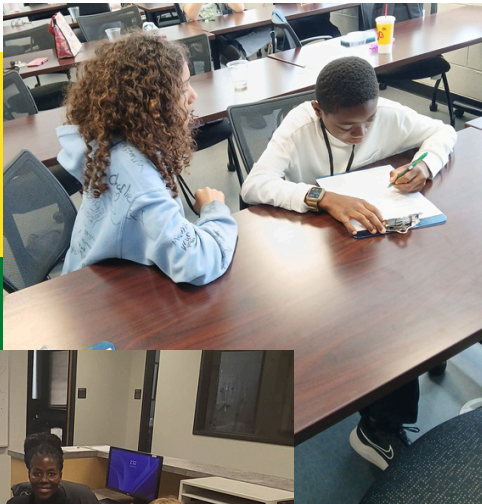
This session emphasized the importance of empathy, self-awareness, and emotional intelligence—key components of compassionate, patient-centered care.



DAY TWO (CONT.)

Zumba Brings the Energy!

Campers got their bodies moving and their spirits lifted during a high-energy Zumba session! Led by an enthusiastic instructor, the workout blended fun and fitness, giving students a chance to dance, laugh, and unwind. Even some faculty members joined in on the fun, making it a memorable moment of movement and connection for everyone involved.



Getting to Know Medical Assisting

Students had the opportunity to learn about the essential role of medical assistants from Dr. Kamoru. During the session, they participated in a hands-on activity where they conducted patient intake interviews with one another. This exercise highlighted the importance of asking thoughtful, detailed questions to fully understand a patient's concerns and medical history—an important first step in delivering quality care.



DAY THREE

Escape Room Challenge: Solving a Medical Mystery

To put their new knowledge to the test, students took on an “escape room” style challenge! Using everything they had learned throughout the camp—from pharmacology and radiography to nursing skills and human services—they worked together to solve clues and diagnose a mystery lung disease affecting their fictional patient. The activity was a fun, fast-paced way to reinforce key concepts while encouraging teamwork, critical thinking, and problem-solving.



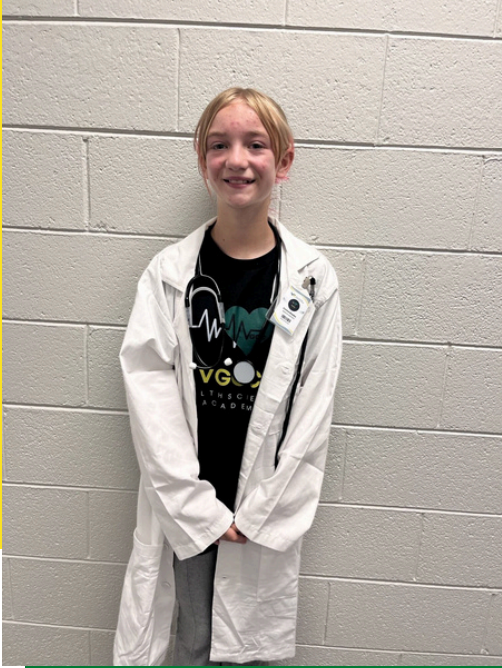
Celebrating a Job Well Done

At the close of the three-day SHS Summer Camp, students were recognized for their dedication and participation with certificates of completion. Dr. Angela Thomas and Mrs. Audrey Stainback presented each camper with their certificate, honoring the hard work, curiosity, and enthusiasm they brought to every session. It was a proud moment for students and faculty alike, marking the end of an inspiring and educational experience.



MEET THE STUDENTS

FEATURING THEIR REFLECTIONS FROM THE
LAST DAY OF CAMP



Emma Brooks

"Today was awesome! I wish this camp was longer. My favorite part was definitely the escape room, it was so fun! I can't wait until the next time I come back! I will miss this camp."

Christina Chappell

"I love the VGCC Summer Academy. I would love to be a radiologic tech some day. Thanks for the award and invite. I hope to see y'all next year. The best experience I ever had learning pharmacy, radiology, human services, medical assisting, and all the other health science jobs. Thank y'all for everything you did for this camp and for us. I had a great time and would come again!"



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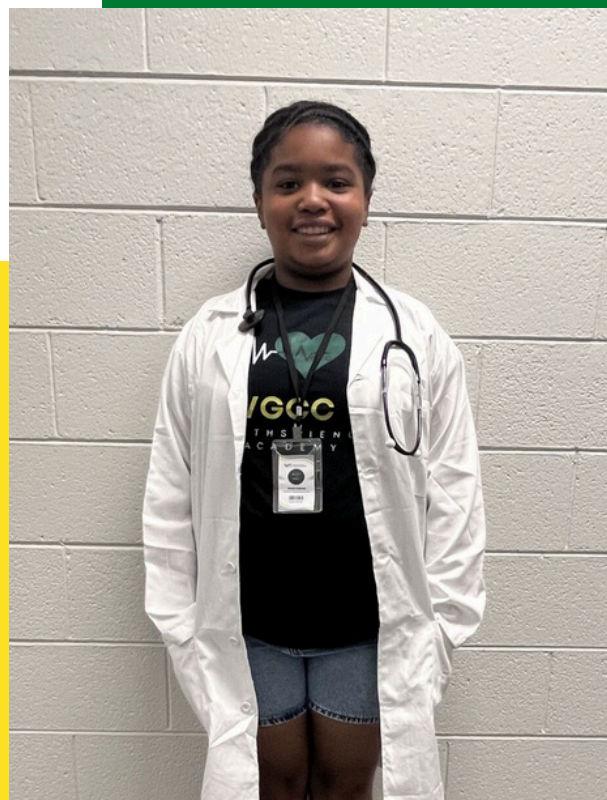


Mason Duke

"Today was good. We did an escape room that we finished in no time. I got a framed award which is way more than our actual school would ever do. In the three days I've been here, I've had more fun than the entirety of 6th grade. I really mean that!"

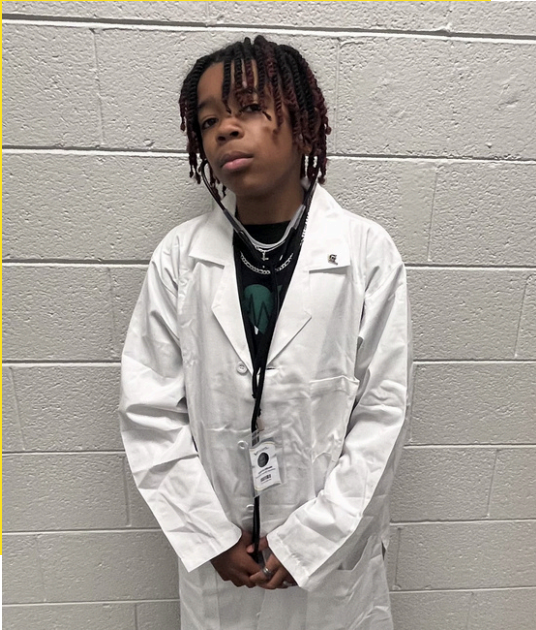
Aliah Hester

"This was one of the best summer camps I have ever been to. I'm actually very surprised that they made learning fun and I actually feel like I learned more here than at school. It's very sad that it is already over, the days went by extremely fast. The amount of fun I had here made getting up early during my summer break worth it. I'm also so excited that I might have a guaranteed spot for next year and that it might be four days instead of three. The staff are all very welcoming and make sure that everyone feels safe and included."



MEET THE STUDENTS

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Calvin House

"Once again my day was good this time. I got a stethoscope and a certificate of completion presented to me by the School of Health Sciences Summer Camp. They always remind us that we are the first group to go here that is young. Today was fun. We got to go to an escape room. We took a lot of pictures and this is the first certificate I got that came in a picture frame and we learned more about early college."

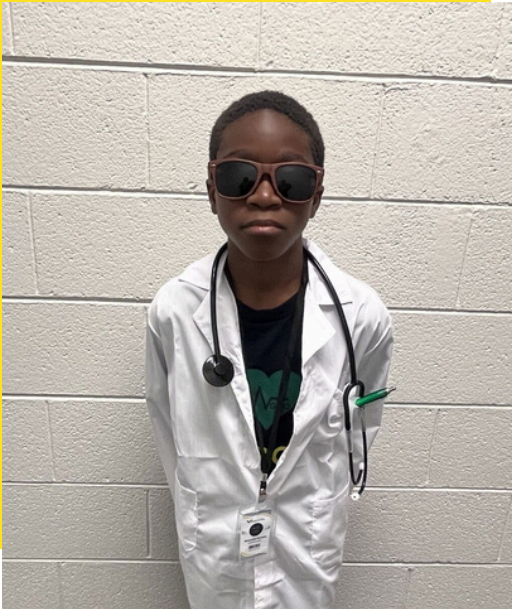
Sophia Magnanti

"This camp was very wonderful and gave us a great experience that we will always remember and I am very much excited to do this again next year and the next. I am very appreciative of all the staff that helped us these past three days. I enjoyed learning about MA's and pharmacist technicians."



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Jay McKenzie Stumpo

"If I had to tell someone else about this camp, I would talk about all the nice staff because all of the staff are extremely joyful."

Morgan Williams

"It was fun because we are doing an escape room and got to make commercials. Today was really fun!"



ADDITIONAL PHOTOS

