These Hopewell Elementary School students were recently caught on camera on Franklin Street in Chapel Hill during a fourth-grade field trip to the Morehead Planetarium. Students took in a show at the planetarium before touring different locations on the UNC campus.

Hopewell students view ‘Carolina Sky’

BY DEBBIE HIGHTOWER

A recent field trip to Chapel Hill was more than a visit to her alma mater for Hopewell Elementary School teacher Meredith Harrison. The trip to Morehead Planetarium and the UNC campus at Chapel Hill left students not only better informed about the sun, moon and constellations, but for some of them it sparked the desire to attend college after graduation.

During their visit to Morehead Planetarium, Hopewell fourth-graders took in a show that explained how the position of earth, sun and moon cause the phenomenon of day and night. The “Carolina Sky” show gave them a tour of the night sky and the constellations that are visible in North Carolina.

Afterwards, fourth-grader Jordan remarked he loved the planetarium show and had never experienced such

SEE SKY/PAGE 6
learning about the sun and the moon and how it works," said Townsend. “I really enjoyed walking the campus and seeing the buildings and the Old Well. That was amazing and the kids getting up there to take a sip was amazing.”

“I loved drinking from the Old Well and learning of the tale it brings good luck,” said Dylan.

Parent chaperones who went along had the option to take their own children to additional sites in Chapel Hill including Franklin Street, the campus bookstore and the football stadium.

“As we prepare our students to be college and career ready, I think it was an invaluable experience for students to see a college campus during class time and see the buildings where their teacher earned her degree and have a different image of college,” Harrison said.

To be honest, Landon had his sights set on attending UNC-CH before the field trip, but now he is even more convinced.

“I loved being on my future campus,” said Landon, who was thrilled to experience a college campus and see where Harrison took her classes.

Townsend said Zachariee enjoyed the planetarium visit, but the campus tour fueled his desire to go to a college like UNC and play sports like football or basketball.

“So many students had never experienced being on a college campus,” said Harrison. “It was a fantastic day and one to be remembered by all. This was the first time that Hopewell’s fourth-grade has been on this field trip, but I certainly hope it will not be the last.”

Submitted photo

Pictured here with his teacher, Meredith Harrison, Landon had his sights set on attending UNC-CH before the field trip, but now he is even more convinced that he would like to attend and play a sport such as football or basketball.