



**Charlottesville  
Catholic School**  
*Christ Community Scholars*

# Charlottesville Catholic School

## Friday Newsletter

### Middle School

- It is imperative that your child comes to school in proper outerwear for recess. Coats, hats, and gloves are required for the winter months.
- Friday, January 13th, school is closed for a teacher/student holiday, due to the end of the quarter
- Monday, January 16th, school is closed for MLK day
- Tuesday, January 17th, the middle school will be doing the Math MAP test (2nd block)
- Wednesday, January 18th, the middle school will be doing the Reading MAP test (2nd block)
- Friday, January 20th, 2nd Quarter Report Cards will be released
- Friday, January 27th, will be our next FANS event, which is tubing at Wintergreen.
- Monday, January 30th, Reed Golomb and Patrick Drury will meet with our middle school to discuss positive leaders and role models. We will also be addressing this within our Advisory Groups.

#### **Battle of the Books**

Does your child love to read and compete? St. Edward-Epiphany will be hosting a Battle of the Books this spring. They are hoping to have it on Friday, April 28. We are hoping to have a team for grades 3-5 and a team for grades 6-8. Each team will consist of four to six students. Students would take responsibility for reading books from a [list](#) and then compete in a Family Feud-style competition with students from other schools. If your child would like to compete, please reach out to Mrs. DeVane at [l.devane@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:l.devane@cvillecatholic.org). She will organize which books each student will read and coordinate for the competition day.

*If you would like to volunteer to work with students at CCS, or chaperone field trips, you need to be VIRTUS-trained. The next VIRTUS training session will be Saturday, January 28, at the CCS Library from 1:00-4:00. Capacity is limited to 30 people. You may register at [https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/reg\\_list2.cfm?theme=0](https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/reg_list2.cfm?theme=0)*

If you are interested/able, here is the sign-up genius, for a service opportunity, which involves baking for First Presbyterian's Soup Kitchen:

[Sign-up for First Presbyterian](#)

Dear MS Parents,

I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart of having and continuing to have your incredible Middle Schoolers help out with our soup kitchen. Whether it is from baking (which was a great need for all weeks) or assisting me in preparing the main meal. The entire staff of First Presbyterian is absolutely grateful and of course especially our Patrons! If your student would like to assist in meal prep after school (2nd Monday of each month at First Pres) please feel to reach out to myself. Also come summer - we are always looking for help to serve (Wednesdays)! It is a wonderful experience.

Thank you,

Monica Jordan

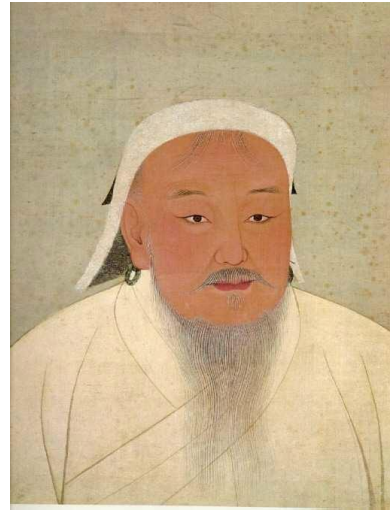
## Social Studies - [r.hendrick@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:r.hendrick@cvillecatholic.org)

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6th: This week the 6th grade learned about the US citizens who moved west after the Civil War. Next week they will move into a discussion of the rise of cities in the Northeastern United States.

7th: This week the 7th grade learned about the various warfronts of World War 2. Next week they will discuss the Holocaust and take their unit test on World War 2. The Holocaust can be a challenging topic for middle schoolers and I would encourage parents to talk to their children about what they are learning about.

8th: This week the 8th graders learned about the Medieval Era in Europe. Next week they will explore the rise of Ghengis Khan and the Mongols.



## Mathematics - [j.garland@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:j.garland@cvillecatholic.org) & [j.reid@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:j.reid@cvillecatholic.org)

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Math 6 (Garland): This past week, we quizzed on ratios and equivalent ratios. This coming week, we will get into rates, unit rates, and solving for proportions. I plan on quizzing on this subject matter on the 23rd.

Pre-Algebra (Garland): This past week, the students were given a take-home assessment (on the 12th) that dealt with solving inequalities. This week, we will prepare for our unit test on Equations and Inequalities, which will be given on the 19th.

Geometry (Garland): This past week, we finished our unit on Right Triangles by proving them congruent with Hypotenuse Leg. On Tuesday, the 17th, we will take a Socratic Quiz and SOL Practice on Right Triangles. On Thursday, the 19th, we will review for a take home test on Right Triangles and the test will be given that day and due on the 20th.

Math 7 (Reid): This past week we finished up our unit on Number Sense and working with/converting numbers in different formats (fractions, decimals, percents, scientific notation, standard notation, squares, cubes, square roots, cube roots). I am so proud of all of the kids and how hard they have worked. I can see how much their number sense has grown which has translated into confidence in attacking math problems. I told them I felt like I could see the top of their heads folding back and their brains exploding with confidence! I am soooooo proud of them! We will have our test on Number Sense on Monday, January 23rd . Our next unit will be working with translating and simplifying expressions.

Algebra (Reid): This past week we have been learning all about functions. We've talked about the domain and range of a function as well as writing function notation for both linear and nonlinear functions. We are starting to get into the nitty gritty details of graphing functions and being able to describe the graph based on its characteristics. As we progress, we will be writing the equations of lines given certain pieces of information. We are working towards a Math & Art Project where the kids will create and illustrate a mountain range. I am very, very proud of the kids and all of their hard work. They have made sooooo much progress this semester and I am very, very proud of them!

## Composition, Literature, and Language

Arts—[e.kerrigan@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:e.kerrigan@cvillecatholic.org) & [l.lowdon@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:l.lowdon@cvillecatholic.org)

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6th Grade Composition (Kerrigan): This week in class we have been studying types of pronouns: subject and object pronouns, reflexive pronouns and possessive pronouns. We've been listening to lots of pronoun songs! We will wrap up our pronoun unit next week, with a test **Monday, Jan. 23.**

6th Grade Literature (Kerrigan): We have finished reading *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park and the students have their final draft on their compare and contrast essay due this Tuesday, Jan. 17. There are resources for them to use on Google Classroom. Our next novel is *Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli.

7th Language Arts (Lowdon): We finished reading *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck. What an amazing story with so many life lessons! Students will not have a final test on this novella but will be writing a creative adaptation of the themes/conflicts in the book. The rough draft of this story is due on Friday, Jan. 20. We began lesson 3 in Wordly Wise; the test is on block day next week. The first IRA for Quarter 3 is due on Tuesday, February 14.

8th Language Arts (Lowdon): Students will finish reading *Lord of the Flies* for block day. They will take a quiz on the novel, and there is a creative writing project inspired by the book due on January 20 (rough draft). We began lesson 3 in Wordly Wise; the test is on block day next week. The first IRA for Quarter 3 is due on Tuesday, February 14.

## Religion—[a.sisman@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:a.sisman@cvillecatholic.org)

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6th: We finished up the quarter with a test this week. Now that students have a foundation of salvation history and the makeup of the Old Testament, they will go into more depth with scripture study, beginning with the Patriarchs. My last day before maternity leave will be Tuesday! Please keep us in your prayers for a safe delivery. Your children will be in great hands with Mrs. DeVane!

Service opportunity: There are several spots left on the sign up to provide desserts for the First Presbyterian soup kitchen.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4caeea2da02-church/20470824#/>

7th: We finished up a chapter on the Mission of the Church and students took a test this week. Students will study the structure of the Church next. My last day before maternity leave will be Tuesday! Please keep us in your prayers for a safe delivery. Your children will be in great hands with Mrs. Fallica!

Service opportunity: There are several spots left on the sign up to provide desserts for the First Presbyterian soup kitchen.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4caeea2da02-church/20470824#/>

8th: We finished up the quarter (and the Church History portion of our course) with a test this week. I just assigned the 8th grade church building project. Your child should begin by having you sign an acknowledgement of the scope of the project, which is due next week. I like to encourage the students to get creative with materials and remind them they *do not* need to ask you to take 342 trips to Michaels. Please allow them to scavenge the house for materials and repurpose items! We will also review some great [videos by Dennis McNamara](#) on church architecture. Finally, my last day before maternity leave will be Tuesday! Please keep us in your prayers for a safe delivery. Your children will be in great hands with Mrs. Bryan!

Service opportunity: There are several spots left on the sign up to provide desserts for the First Presbyterian soup kitchen.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4caeea2da02-church/20470824#/>

## Science—[m.bruscia@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:m.bruscia@cvillecatholic.org)

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Charlottesville Catholic School is excited to host this event on Thursday, February 2, from 4:30-6:00 pm. This year we are able to have the event as an open house and community event. Not only will judges be invited but also members and fans of our community.

6th: This week we spent a day working on science fair. We discussed expectations of an abstract and the final report. We also continued with classification of kingdoms. We reviewed protists and fungi. We dissected mushrooms and practiced making wet mount slides and investigating the tissue under the microscope. We made spore prints which allowed us to identify mushrooms by the configuration of the gills. Next week we will start on the kingdom of plants.

7th: This week we spent a day working on science fair projects. We discussed expectations of an abstract and the final report. Later in the week we discussed chemical formulas for chemical reactions. We experimented with chemical reactions by making elephant toothpaste and electrocuting a gummy bear.

8th: This week we spent a day working on science fair projects. We discussed expectations of an abstract and the final report. Later in the week we practiced rock identification by observing 8 different rocks and minerals using a dichotomous key. We practiced testing rocks for the Mohs hardness scale. Next week we will experiment with how soil is created and classifying soils by texture.

## Spanish—[j.osteen@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:j.osteen@cvillecatholic.org)

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7th and 8th: This week we practiced describing the weather and talking about the seasons. We then learned about clothing and how to describe what we or someone else is wearing. Students worked on noun and adjective agreement by talking about clothing and colors and practiced the verb “llevar” which means “to wear”. Next week we will continue clothing and discuss weather and clothing together by talking about what we wear during different seasons of the year.

Now that we have completed a semester of Spanish I am implementing Spanish only classes. This means during part or all of some lessons students will be expected to use only Spanish and the use of English will negatively impact their grade. I will let students know we have begun with the phrase “uno, dos, tres no ingles”. This is designed to help students speak, listen and think in Spanish. The immersive experience of class combined with the restriction of English will challenge students to use Spanish in more complex ways and therefore grow their knowledge of the target language.