

Charlottesville Catholic School

Friday Newsletter

1st Grade 1/14/2022

Teacher's Message/Announcements

Teacher Emails

- Mrs. Milnor - k.milnor@cvillecatholic.org
- Mr. Little - t.little@cvillecatholic.org

Upcoming Dates:

- **Monday, January 17th**
 - School Closed - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- **Friday, January 21st**
 - Quarter 2 Report Cards Available on FACTS
 - Mass - 8:15 (Please wear formal dress uniform)
 - Mass live-stream link: <https://stream.cvillecatholic.org>

Curriculum

Math

This week we reviewed 2 and 3 Dimensional shapes as well as introduced fractions. We discussed key vocabulary such as equal shares, equal parts, halves, and fourths. This week was all about laying the foundation for what fractions are, understanding how fractions are related to whole numbers and objects, and how to identify individual shares/parts. Next week we will continue working with fractions and review previously taught skills.

Reading and Language Arts

Reading

This week we read the book *Penguin in Peril* and studied penguins and cats to help discuss and review Fiction and Nonfiction skills. We analyzed the story and identified key details found in the beginning, middle, and ending sections. Specifically, we determined who the characters were, where the story took place, what the problem was, and how the problem was resolved. We also compared and contrasted the writing styles and content found within various Fiction and Nonfiction texts. We further stressed good reading strategies/habits such as reading a text more than once and analyzing pictures and other nonfiction text features as well. Next week we will read *Chameleons are Cool*, discuss Main Idea and Supporting Details, and dive deeper into Nonfiction Text Features such as Captions, Index, Labels, Headings, Electronic Menu, and Table of Contents.

Grammar

This week we reviewed synonyms (words with similar meanings) and the idea that synonyms can have different shades of meanings (unhappy, sad, miserable). We also continued to apply previous grammar skills such as capitalization, punctuation, verb tenses and other conventions in our writing. Next week we will focus on Nonfiction Text Features rather than

introducing a new grammar skill.

Word Study/Spelling

We practiced sorting our words, identified closed syllables (a short vowel followed by consonants) and open syllables (a syllable that ends in a vowel with a long sound), identified phonemes (individual sounds) and focused on the voiced /v/ sound. We also looked at the spelling rules/generalizations for how to spell the /v/ sound (**van** and **cave**). And continued reviewing previously taught spelling patterns and skills. Next week students will receive a new word sort (spelling list).

Writing

This week we continued to develop our writing by incorporating previously taught skills (i.e., verb tense, punctuation, and descriptive adjectives). We had the opportunity to practice writing in a Fiction-style (a little more fun and creative) as well as a Nonfiction-style (sticking to the facts). We also completed writing activities in our Daily 5 rotations such as journal/story writing and dictation of sentences.

Religion

This week we started our study of Noah. We read the story of Noah and completed a KWL chart in our interactive religion notebook (what we know, what we wonder, and what we learned). We also completed a page about Noah in our Catholic Reflections text. Next week we will continue exploring the story of Noah.

Science/ Social Studies

This week we began our unit on Plants. We discussed the different parts of a plant and their unique needs as well as photosynthesis and other plant functions and uses. Next week we will continue learning about plants and complete activities to help with our understanding.

Homework

For the weeks of: 1/17-1/21

Math - 2nd Quarter Week 3 Math Sheet - Complete one activity each night (**M - Th**).

Reading - Read for 15 min./night. Please record the title of the book that was read each night. Additionally, for each completed book, your child will color in their reading log for the month (e.g. January books = Snowflakes). Don't forget the monthly reading challenge that was included in the binder as well. These activities are designed to motivate readers/encourage students to have fun with reading. It's optional, but highly recommended.

Word Study/Spelling - Students should sort their Word Study/Spelling words each night as well as work on **3** activities total of their choosing from the Weekly Spelling Menu (**M - Th**, 10 min./night).

Religion - Practice Our Father Prayer

Notes From the Classroom

Virtual School Days (1/18 - 1/21 ?)

We are aware that there is potential for another winter storm Sunday into Monday. Fortunately, Monday is a federal holiday and school is closed. If we are unable to physically be in the building on Tuesday, we are planning on attempting a virtual day. We are doing this because we have already missed 5 days of school and hope to not add make-up days to the end of our school year. We fully realize that this plan only works if the area does not lose power or internet. If we have virtual school and you cannot access, it will be an excused absence. We will be sending home materials (Snow Day Packet) that will be needed in the event that we are home. First grade will be largely asynchronous, with digital check-ins available throughout the day.

Celebrating Catholic Schools Week (January 30th - February 4th)

Sunday, January 30th:

We celebrate our parishes!

Students are asked to wear their formal dress to Mass/church services.

Monday, January 31st:

We celebrate our community!

We will collect food all week to benefit the Blue Ridge Food Bank.

Students may wear a crazy hat for a \$1 donation.

All money collected will benefit Habitat for Humanity.

Tuesday, February 1st:

We celebrate our students!

Students may wear their Spirit Team shirts with other small blue and/or gold accessories.

Wednesday, February 2nd:

We celebrate our nation!

Students may wear red, white, and blue.

Thursday, February 3rd:

We celebrate our vocations!

Students may dress for their future job/profession/vocation.

Friday, February 4th:

We celebrate our faculty, staff, and families!

Students must be in formal dress for Mass and a Faith Rally.

Outside for Snack, Lunch, and Recess

As we head into the very cold months of winter, please know that we will continue to go outside for snack, lunch, and recess. It is very important that the students get fresh air. Students must bring coats, hats, and gloves with them to school. Ladies should not have bare legs when the temperature is below freezing. Please make sure they wear tights or leggings under their jumpers.

Winter Dress

This means we are no longer wearing shorts and ankle socks. Girls must also be in navy knee highs, navy leggings, or navy tights. Please have your child try on their uniform pants to make sure that they fit, and place orders soon, as FlynnO'Hara has been running into

distribution and shipping delays.

Snack (9:00)/ Lunch(11:50)

Please include a snack with your child's lunch everyday along with a filled spill proof water bottle. Just as a reminder we cannot give out food or plastic utensils to children this year. Also, please be mindful of the food that you are packing. Both First Grade classrooms are nut free, so double check labels. ***Please make sure that water bottles only contain water. We have had a few juice/ sports drink spills and they become rather messy.***

Masks and Water Bottles

We cannot give out extra masks to students. Please make sure to pack an extra mask or two in your child's bag. Please make sure that students are bringing a water bottle to school daily. We do not have access to a water fountain and do not have disposable water bottles at school for the students to have.

Specials Schedule

Monday - Library Tuesday - Art Wednesday - Art and Music

Thursday-P.E. and Music Friday - Mass and Library

CCS School Calendar (December 2021 - June 2022)

[CCS School Calendar December 2021-June 2022](#)

We have several major CCS events missing from the calendar such as Grandparents and Great Friends Day, Field Day, the Art Show, and our Read-A-Thon. These events must remain fluid due to ongoing COVID 19 restrictions.

Dress Uniform

Boys - Blue pants, white dress shirt, CCS tie/bowtie, black school shoes, and blue or black socks **NO** white.

Girls- Plaid jumper, solid dark shorts underneath, white peter pan collared shirt, navy knee socks **NO** white or black knee socks, and black school shoes.

Blue & Gold Days (Not Every Monday)

Please check the calendar above for designated Blue & Gold Days. There has been some confusion about this.

Monthly Scholastic Book Orders

<https://clubs.scholastic.com>

Mrs. Milnor - LKHF3

Mr. Little - JBPQ2