



Charlottesville Catholic School

Friday Newsletter

Middle School

- Students should remember to bring jackets, hats, gloves, etc., on a daily basis since we will be going outside as often as possible for lunch and recess.
- There is no school on Monday, January 17.
- The math portion of the Performance Series will be next week during their math blocks on Wednesday and Thursday.
- We will celebrate Catholic Schools Week January 30 - February 4. Please see the link to see how we will be celebrating: [CSW 2022 Flyer](#)

From Dr. Riley:

Winter Weather:

I am 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. I 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. Teachers will be sending home materials that will be needed in the event that we are home. JK-3rd grade will be largely asynchronous, with digital check-ins available throughout the day. 4th-8th grades will utilize Google Meet and Google Classroom to hold classes as normally scheduled.

Please know that this is just an attempt. If it is just not feasible, we will cancel school as we normally would.

Social Studies - r.hendrick@cvillecatholic.org

6th: This week the 6th graders learned about the cause and effect of the rise in immigration to the US in the late 1800s. Next week they will begin exploring the rise of the Industrialists such as Andrew Carnegie and John D. Rockefeller.

7th: This week the 7th graders began their 1950s unit with an exploration of the Cold War.



Next week they will begin looking at the societal changes going on in the US in the 50s.

8th: This week the 8th graders began learning about the Middle Ages of European history. Next week they will return to China to continue learning about Chinese history and the rise of Genghis Khan.

Mathematics - j.garland@cvillecatholic.org & l.devane@cvillecatholic.org

Math 6 (Garland): It was so great to see the kids in school after our break that turned into 3 weeks. We hit the ground running, finalizing our unit on Rational Numbers. Next week, we will review, on Tuesday, for a Test on Decimal Operations. The test will be on Friday, January 21st. **Please note that your student's math scantron performance series test will be given on January 19th, during our math block.**

Pre-Algebra (Garland): It was so great to see the kids in school after our break that turned into 3 weeks. We hit the ground running, continuing our unit on Equations and Inequalities. Over the next couple of class periods, we will focus on the setting up and solving of Algebraic word problems. The goal is for students to see that the defined variable(s) and equation are just as important as the solution. **Please note that your student's math scantron performance series test will be given on January 19th or January 20th, based on the day they have their math block class.**

Geometry (Garland): It was so great to see the kids in school after our break that turned into 3 weeks. We hit the ground running, continuing our unit on Right Triangles. This past week, we reviewed Special Right Triangles and got into a favorite topic of mine, Trigonometry. Next week, we will revisit proofs, with focus on Right Triangles. **Please note that your student's math scantron performance series test will be given on Thursday, January 20th.**

Math 7 (DeVane): This week, we reviewed solving one-step equations and then solved word problems by identifying the variable, writing the equation, and solving. We also looked at inequalities and how to graph them on the number line. We also solved one-step inequalities. With no school on Monday and the Performance Series testing on Thursday, we will have a short week. We will continue practicing solving inequalities and take a short quiz on Friday. **Please note that your student's math scantron performance series test will be given on Thursday, January 20th.**

Algebra (DeVane): This week, we reviewed writing linear equations. Then, we wrote equations for lines that are parallel and perpendicular to one another. Students also worked on a project (quiz grade) in class, where they made a picture by writing equations. With no school on Monday and the Performance Series testing on Wednesday, we will have

a short week. We will start learning about direct and inverse variation. **Please note that your student's math scantron performance series test will be given on Wednesday, January 19th.**

Language Composition and Literature

6th: Literature - We jumped right back into our novel, *A Long Walk to Water*, when we returned this week. In addition to working on chapter comprehension, we examined the author's use of personification. We are maintaining a t-chart on Nya and Salva in order to organize character attributes for our compare and contrast essay that we will begin next week. On Tuesday we will take a quiz.

6th: We started working with a new group of vocabulary words (7). We created flashcards and wrote them in sentences in their journal. We also returned to our study of pronouns. This week we covered possessive pronouns, pronouns in contractions and demonstrative pronouns. Next week we will finish the pronoun unit. We will take the vocabulary test next Friday.

7th: We began a poetry unit this week! Students are "meeting" such famous poets as Langston Hughes, Robert Frost, and Emily Dickinson. If you are a fan of poetry, perhaps you might share a few of your favorite poems with your young person. Students took a Wordly Wise test on Friday and will begin Lesson 11 next week. All students should be reading their first book for an IRA, 3rd Quarter. I want them to have a book with them at all times. In grammar, we reviewed indirect objects and took a quiz on Thursday. Next week, we begin a unit on enlarging and enriching sentence structure using some of the grammatical constructs we have learned.

8th: Students wrote a modern-day scenario featuring elements of *Lord of the Flies* (due today, Friday). We began studying *Our Town*, a play by Thornton Wilder. We will be watching the movie of this play (starring Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward!), and will be discussing character development, themes, and events in each of the three Acts. Our next novel will be *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls. All students should be reading their first book for an IRA, 3rd Quarter. I want them to have a book with them at all times.

I had the privilege of collecting the Memoirs in Poetry written by students and due on Jan. 10. I am in awe of the literary and artistic talents of these 8th graders. I read every memoir and learned so much about each of my unique and lovable students. Thank you, students, for your effort and accomplishment in creating such lovely keepsakes.

The reading Performance Series testing will be given on January 26 and 27 during the literature block.

6th: This week we focused on Covenants of the Old Testament and how God brought about the ultimate fulfillment of his covenants with his people through Jesus Christ. We, too, are in covenant with our Lord and Creator. We must listen and respond to his call to us. Next week, we will prepare for a unit test on Chapters 5-8 in the Catholic Connections Handbook. We will then delve deeper into biblical reading, focusing on The Patriarchs - Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joshua.

7th: This week, we began a unit on the letters of the New Testament, which focus on guiding a newly established Church and explaining Christ's redemptive sacrifice to invite all people to be children of God. The students are currently working on creating a map to show all of the new Christian communities connected to these letters and how the faith spread throughout the world. We will continue this unit next week with a deeper look into the Pauline letters.

8th: This week, students learned about making moral choices as guided by the teachings of Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition. We discussed that we should aim for God in each decision we make and that sin is when "we miss the mark." Sometimes we miss the mark in smaller ways (venial sin), but sometimes we deliberately miss the target (mortal sin). We have had some lively conversations discussing these important issues. I always enjoy the students' enthusiasm to better grasp such a difficult topic. We will continue this unit with a project on the Seven Deadly Sins and prepare for a test on the Gospel of Matthew and Chapters 37-39 in the Catholic Connections Handbook.

Science

6th: Happy New Year! This week we started with Kingdom Animalia. We learned about invertebrates and the characteristics of the phylums of invertebrates. We passed around specimens of each phylum of invertebrates and discussed adaptations for each species. We also started our squid model. Next week we will plan to complete our model and dissect a squid.

7th: Happy New Year! This week we sped into physics with discussions on motion. We solved for speed, velocity and acceleration. We practiced measuring the speed of matchbox cars on a track. We compared our results to other students to determine what factors may have influenced speed. We also tried to out run Usain Bolt. His fastest speed is around 44 km/hr. When we converted our time after running 10 meters our fastest result was equivalent to 25 km/hr. Next week we will explore and experiment with Newton's Laws.

8th: Happy New Year! This week we continued discussions on Earthquakes. We practiced reading seismograms to determine the distance to the epicenter. With three seismograms we are able to triangulate to determine the location of the epicenter of an Earthquake. We concluded the week with learning how to engineer a pop-up book as this will be a requirement of our next project. Next week we will continue with our pop-up book construction and discuss the expectations for this year's science fair.

Spanish

8th: Welcome back and happy new year! I am so excited to be back with all my wonderful students. This week we spent two days reviewing content from the first semester before we dived into our next unit: school.

This unit will cover school supplies, classes and extracurricular activities, telling time and location. At the end of the unit students will have a project where they design a school and present a school schedule including the classes, what is needed for each class and when the classes are during the day. I have done this in the past and always love to see how creative students are and the different schools they design!

Additionally, we are continuing to work on being conversational in Spanish. My goal for my students always is to be able to use the language outside of the classroom. Therefore I highly encourage all students to practice speaking at home. Even when they do not have homework they should practice basic questions and answers to work on pronunciation, fluency and vocabulary.

Students will have a short oral quiz on Tuesday. This quiz will be similar to the oral part of the midterm where they will have a list of several possible questions and should prepare for each one. The full list can be found on Google Classroom.