

Charlottesville Catholic School

Friday Newsletter

1st Grade 1/21/2022

Teacher's Message/Announcements

Teacher Emails

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

Upcoming Dates:

- **Wednesday, January 26th - Thursday, January 27th**
 - First Grade - Performance Series Testing (Math and Reading)
- **Friday, January 28th**
 - Quarter 2 Report Cards Available on FACTS
 - Mass - 8:15 (Please wear formal dress uniform)
 - Mass live-stream link: <https://stream.cvillecatholic.org>
- **Sunday, January 30th - Friday, February 4th**
 - Celebrating Catholic Schools Week (January 30th - February 4th)

Curriculum

Math

This week we completed our unit on 2 and 3 Dimensional shapes and fractions. We discussed/reviewed key vocabulary such as equal shares, equal parts, halves, and fourths. This unit 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 begin our unit on Measurement and Time. We will start off by comparing and ordering Lengths, Heights, and Widths.

Reading and Language Arts

Reading

This week we read *Chameleons are Cool*. We used this nonfiction book to help us discuss Main Idea and Supporting Details. Prior to our Virtual Learning Day and recent snow, we had planned to also discuss Nonfiction Text Features such as Captions, Index, Labels, Headings, Electronic Menu, and Table of Contents. However, we have decided to push this into next week. We will continue using the same book as well as other Chameleon-related texts and resources to practice these skills. There will not be a new featured story next week. Additionally, We will continue to compare and contrast the writing styles and content found within various Fiction and Nonfiction texts as well as good overall reading strategies/habits.

Grammar

Rather than introduce a new grammar skill next week, we will instead focus on Nonfiction Text Features and review previously taught skills (i.e., capitalization, punctuation, verb

tenses, synonyms, and other conventions in our writing).

Word Study/Spelling

We practiced sorting our words, reviewed closed syllables ("cat" - a short vowel followed by consonants) and open syllables ("go" - a syllable that ends in a vowel with a long sound), identified phonemes (individual sounds) and introduced Vowel Team syllables (2 letters/1 sound - CVVC spelling patterns - ai, ea, ee, ou, and the oddball oo). We also continued reviewing previously taught spelling patterns and skills. Next week students will receive a new word sort (spelling list).

Writing

This week our writing centered around Main Idea and Supporting Details. We practiced identifying the main idea from various texts and then compared that to supporting types of sentences. We also wrote descriptive sentences about what we learned from the nonfiction texts and topics (chameleons). Writing activities in our Daily 5 rotations such as journal/story writing and dictation of sentences continued as well.

Religion

This week we continued our study of Noah. We completed a story square in which we answered some who, what, why and how questions using the story of Noah. We also used a Venn Diagram to compare Noah's Ark to boats today. Next week we will continue exploring the story of Noah.

Science/ Social Studies

This week we completed 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.

Homework

For the weeks of: 1/24-1/28

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 - Thoughts

If we have additional Virtual School Days, First Grade will continue to use the Google Meet Platform to have our meetings. To help these meetings run smoothly, there are a couple of things that are going to be important for students to keep in mind. We will of course be reiterating these rules/guidelines here at school.

- 1) **Noise** - Please remind your child to remain "muted" until they have been prompted otherwise by their teacher. Students should "raise their hand," just as they would in the classroom, if they would like to share something (red hand icon).
- 2) **Appearance** - Although uniforms will not be required for first graders, it is important that your child presents themselves in a positive manner. Therefore, when they are on camera, they should be ideally sitting at a table/desk or in a chair. They should not be lying in their bed. They should also do their best to avoid anything that may distract the other students on screen (i.e., playing and/or excessive moving around).
- 3) **Typing** - If students need to type or respond to their teacher, they can utilize the chat feature by clicking on the word bubble icon.

As a reminder, we may be doing this again 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 continue to utilize the home materials (Snow Day Packet) as well. First grade will continue to 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.

Most Needed Items:

Cereal, Peanut or Almond Butter, Canned Tuna and Chicken, Canned Soups, Stews and Chili, Canned Fruit, Canned Veggies, Beans, Canned or Dried, Boxed Mac & Cheese, Pasta and Rice, Spaghetti Sauce, Paper Products, Baby Food, Formula, and Diapers, Soap, Toothbrushes, and Feminine Products

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