



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

# Charlottesville Catholic School

## Friday Newsletter

### Middle School

## January 26th, 2024

- **We are gearing up for Catholic Schools week. Make sure to come into the school and look at our door decorations!!**
- The Village School will be hosting its 13th annual Girls Excelling in Math (GEM) tournament on Saturday, April 20, 2024. Girls in grades 4 through 8 may participate. If your daughter is interested or you would like to help coach the team, please reach out to Mrs. DeVane (l.devane@cvillecatholic.org) by Friday, February 9.
- **Catholic Schools Week in YOUR Parish!** Charlottesville Catholic School hopes to have a large presence in our local parishes for Catholic Schools Week weekend. Please consider signing your family up to serve in this capacity. Greeters, ushers, gift bearers, and hosts for our information tables are needed. We invite students, parents, grandparents – anyone with a love for our great school - to help. See the sign ups below.

[Church of the Incarnation \(January 27/28\)](#)

[St. Thomas Aquinas \(February 3/4\)](#)

[St. Thomas Aquinas Hot Chocolate Bar \(January 27/28\)](#)

The Society of Women Engineers at the University of Virginia invites middle school students to register for our **USTEP (University Student Taught Engineering Program)** held on Sunday, February 25th, 2024. USTEP is a fun-filled educational outreach program run by the Society of Women Engineers at UVA to serve middle school students throughout Virginia. Students will have a one-of-a-kind experience taking classes taught by passionate UVA Engineering students in a fun and stress-free environment. Participants register for 50-minute STEM classes and take three of them in the day. USTEP will be held in person on **Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>** (~9:30AM to 1:30 PM) at the UVA campus in Charlottesville, VA. More information about the event and the

link to the application can all be found on our website: [www.virginiaswe.org/ustep](http://www.virginiaswe.org/ustep). Additionally, we have attached the application link, an [informational flyer](#), and a detailed [course catalog](#). The registration deadline for USTEP (University Student Taught Engineering Program) is **Sunday, February 4th at 11:59 PM**. Follow up questions/concerns may be emailed directly to: Sallie Lumpkin ([dzi2ve@virginia.edu](mailto:dzi2ve@virginia.edu)) & Morgan Carr ([nwu2pc@virginia.edu](mailto:nwu2pc@virginia.edu))  
SWE at UVA - USTEP Co-Chairs

Registration Link: [https://virginia.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8B5Fqj27Ke8dOC2](https://virginia.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8B5Fqj27Ke8dOC2)

Even though the weather is turning colder, we will continue to get the students outside for recess as often as possible. Please make sure your child has the outerwear needed so that they can participate in recess. Below are the guidelines we follow:

- Students should stay inside if the wind-chill factor is below 25°F.
- If the wind-chill is in the 30s, students should have a coat (not a sweatshirt) and it should be encouraged that their heads are covered (hat or cinched coat/sweatshirt hood).
- If the wind-chill is in the 40s, students should at least have a sweatshirt on.
- **Students who do not have the proper outerwear will sit in the front office for recess.**

### **Service Opportunity:**

Church (or community) service opportunity! Baking muffins for Saint Thomas Aquinas! You may earn 1 hour per dozen of muffins you bake. Muffins may be dropped off at STA's kitchen (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, to the right of St Thomas Parish Hall) on Saturday from 0830-6:00 pm or for Sunday Mass at 07:30, 9:00 or 11:30. A label describing the flavor would be helpful. We are most grateful for all contributions and look forward to baking with you!

You must sign up at <https://stauva.flocknote.com/signup/149340>

### **Spring Service Opportunity:**

Please consider signing up your child/children to work morning carline for one week. Students should be dropped off at 7:40 at the front lobby. It can count toward school service hours.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040C44ACAA2DA31-46668632-middle>

**Model United Nations (MUN)** is a simulation exercise where participants represent individual nations and collaborate to find solutions to issues of global importance, much like the actual UN. The activity involves researching the position of the given nation, giving speeches to convince others of that position, and writing legislation with other participants. Each year, IRO runs the Virginia Intergenerational Model United Nations (VIGMUN) Conference, which invites individuals of all ages (from middle schoolers to octogenarians) to UVA to participate in a MUN simulation. More information and registration links can be found at <https://vigmun.squarespace.com/>.

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

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6th: This week the 6th graders learned about the end of the Indian Wars in the west. Next week they will be exploring the increase in immigration the United States.

7th: This week the 7th graders learned 1950s culture, including the early career of Elvis Presley. Next week they will explore the early cold war and the Berlin Airlift.



8th: This week the 8th graders learned about the rise of Islam. Next week they will look into the Islamic Golden Age of the Abbasid Caliphate.

## 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, the students were introduced to their new unit, entitled, "Expressions and Properties". We will spend much of this coming week, working on evaluating expressions by substituting numbers in for variables. We will revisit the order of operations (GEMDAS) in doing so.

Pre-Algebra (Garland): This past week, we solidified our knowledge on solving equations based on Angle Relationships. The students will assess these skills this coming Monday. We will use these angle skills, moving forward, to work with Triangles; solving for their angle measures and classifying the triangles based on these solutions. We will finish out the week by discussing the Pythagorean Theorem.

Geometry (Garland): This past week, we started to investigate properties of Quadrilaterals, by proving them based on Congruent Triangles. This coming week, we will dive into properties of rectangles, rhombuses, and squares based on their diagonals. We will also add into the mix kites and isosceles trapezoids.

Math 7 (Reid): This past week we worked with scientific notation, standard notation and how to adjust the decimal and exponent with scientific notation. Next week we will work with converting fractions, decimals and percentages and then we will have our 1st test of the 3rd Quarter on Decimal Operations and Number Conversions.

Algebra (Reid): . This past week we learned how to find & graph perpendicular lines. We also started to look at the domain & range of relations. Next week we will continue to work with domain and range as we decide how to recognize what a function is and use function notation. After we finish function notation, we will be headed towards our 1st test of the 3rd quarter on Writing Equations of Lines and Functions.

# Composition, Literature, and Language Arts -

[r.hernandez@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:r.hernandez@cvillecatholic.org) & [e.kerrigan@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:e.kerrigan@cvillecatholic.org)

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6th Grade Composition (Kerrigan): This week we continued our study of pronouns. Next week's pronoun test has been postponed to block days, Wednesday, Jan. 31, and Thursday, Feb. 1.

6th Grade Literature (Hernandez): This week, we continued our analysis of *Hatchet*. We discussed the growth and resilience of the main character and students reflected in their journals on the lessons in the book. We will finish the novel next week. The project for *Hatchet* is due Monday, February 5th. Looking ahead, our next IRA is due Tuesday, February 13th.

7th Language Arts (Hernandez): This week, students took a quiz on Poe's life and works. The 7th graders wrote their own spooky story in preparation for reading Poe's "The Black Cat." We also continued with our grammar review. We will resume both grammar and Poe next week. Looking ahead, our next IRA is due Tuesday, February 13th.

8th Language Arts (Hernandez): This week, we continued with our grammar review and our analysis of *Unbroken*. 8th graders took a quiz on parts 1 and 2 of *Unbroken*. Next week, we will continue with grammar and part 3 of *Unbroken*. Looking ahead, our next IRA is due Tuesday, February 13th.

## Theology— [d.mehl@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:d.mehl@cvillecatholic.org) & [v.fallica@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:v.fallica@cvillecatholic.org) & [h.bryan@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:h.bryan@cvillecatholic.org)

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6th(Mehl): This week we continued our study of the Patriarchs, with a focus on Joseph. We watched a video and read passages in the Bible taking us through his being sold into slavery in Egypt and his subsequent rise to power under Pharaoh. We also did the qualifying round of the Catholic Bee in class, with a lot of knowledge being put on display within the spirit of healthy competition. We started class this week by praying the *Memorare*, which is our latest prayer for memorization. Next week we will move forward in *Catholic Connections*. Our Google classroom contains study resources for the prayer and for chapters of *Catholic Connections*.

7th(Mehl): This week we continued our study of the Gospel of John. We have watched a video on the first half of the Gospel, and our Bible readings this week were on the Samaritan woman at the well and the raising of Lazarus from the dead. In both passages, people come to know Jesus as the Messiah and to learn about eternal life. We also did the qualifying round of the Catholic Bee in class, with a lot of knowledge being put on display within the spirit of healthy competition. We started class this week by praying the *Animi Christi*, which is our latest prayer for memorization. Next week we will move forward in *Catholic Connections*. Our Google classroom contains study resources for the prayer and for chapters of *Catholic Connections*.

8th (Fallica and Bryan): This week was a busy one! Students began to learn more about the Middle Ages and the complexity of the time. They participated in their grade level Catholic Bee, a relatively new tradition at CCS and throughout the diocese. It was fun to watch them recall information - I think they surprised themselves with how much they knew! Keep the momentum going with their church projects! Students have a study guide for our next test that they should be working on. This test is on the Middle Ages and is scheduled for the week of Feb 5. Additionally, they have a vocabulary quiz on Friday, Feb 2.

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

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All Middle School Families:

This is the final weekend before Science Fair projects are due. This is a reminder that next Thursday, Feb, 1st after school from 4:30-6:00 pm students will be presenting their projects to the CCS community and judges. This is an open house family event and all are welcome to walk around and discuss projects with students. If you are interested in judging projects please email me at [m.bruscia@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:m.bruscia@cvillecatholic.org) . Students are welcome to stay after school for a study hall as well as to set up for the 4:30 pm start time. If they stay please be sure to send them with extra snacks/food. If they choose to go home please make sure they return by 4:30 pm. The event concludes at 6:00 pm and students will be released to their parents for departure. Dress attire is either CCS uniforms or professional/business attire that falls within the CCS Dress Code Guidelines. Students will have time after school to change and prepare for the event. Please let me know if you have any questions.

6th: This week we spent time working on science fair projects and finished learning about vascular plants. We dissected tiger lilies and investigated using hand lenses and microscopes. Next week we will start the Kingdom Animalia as well as to practice our science fair presentations.

7th: This week we finished taking notes on Newton's Laws. We also started a lab with paper airplanes and had some time to work on science fair projects. Next week we will continue experimenting with motion, practice our science fair presentation and start investigating Work.

8th: This week we finished discussing soil, it's properties and horizons. We concluded with a lab investigating the texture of soil. We also had a chat about organic soil and fertilizer and how texture of soil can influence the success of plant growth. This week we also started to discuss geologic time and how it is measured. Next week we will practice our science fair presentations and continue with geologic time.

6th(DeMaio): The sixth grade students continued learning about the topic of family “La familia” and learning and memorizing vocabulary by doing written and oral practices. For next week they will have a short review of personal pronouns with the goal of learning to conjugate verbs in their infinitive form. Also the terms "Hay"=There is or there are and ¿Qué es? =What is it?

7th(DeMaio): This week the seventh grade students took a quiz related to the topic of family “La familia”. They also learned about negatives and expressing agreement or disagreement in order to read and write about other people's likes and dislikes and ask and answer questions about activity preferences. They also learned about infinitives to differentiate verbs that end with ar, er, ir, and to conjugate verbs with an **ar** ending. The next few weeks will continue learning more about infinitive verbs and their conjugations.

8th(Mehl): This week we continued to study the regular formation of the preterite tense. We have also started studying reflexive verbs and did video exercises on these in SpanishDictionary. We worked on our new vocabulary list, which contains clothing and reflexive verbs used to describe the daily routine. Next week we will have a quiz on the preterite tense.

# Celebrating Catholic Schools Week: January 28th–February 3rd

## *“United in Faith and Community”*

### **Sunday, January 28:**

*We celebrate our parishes!*

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

A sign-up will be in the Tuesday Teller for students to serve at Masses.

Students will also be speaking at Masses at our Catholic parishes.

### **Monday, January 29:**

*We celebrate our community!*

We will collect food all week to benefit the Blue Ridge Food Bank. More information will be in the Tuesday Teller.

Dress Down Day for Commonwealth Catholic Charities—see the flyer and information below.

### **Tuesday, January 30:**

*We celebrate our students!*

Formal Dress for Mass

NJHS and Faith in Action will host a bake sale to benefit St. Mary the Mother of God Church in Wytheville.

### **Wednesday, January 31:**

*We celebrate our nation!*

Blue Ribbon T-shirts may be worn with jeans or CCS-crested sweatpants (if not wearing the Blue Ribbon shirts, students must be in regular uniform).

NJHS and Faith in Action Bake Sale

### **Thursday, February 1:**

*We celebrate our vocations!*

Regular Uniforms

### **Friday, February 2:**

*We celebrate our faculty, staff, and families!*

Blue & Gold Day

Living Rosary 8:15

Catholic Bee Finals 1:00

Faith Rally



**Catholic Schools**  
United in Faith and Community



**Escuelas Católicas**  
Unidos en Fe y Comunidad



# Uniting in Faith & Community

Students can dress down on

for \$5.00 to support CCC programs.

Please have students bring their donation to

the week of

As the social services arm of the Catholic Diocese of Richmond, CCC is a leading nonprofit provider of compassionate human services to individuals and families. CCC offers more than 30 unique programs from 11 office locations in Central, Eastern, and Southwest Virginia.

CCC's programs include: Adoption & Pregnancy Support, Developmental Disabilities Support, Food Pantries, Foster Care, Homeless Services, Housing & Financial Counseling, Interpreter Services, Mental Health Counseling, Refugee & Immigration Services, and Senior Services.



Commonwealth Catholic Charities

[www.cccofva.org](http://www.cccofva.org)





# Blue Ridge Area **FOOD BANK**

Everyone should have enough to eat.

## **Most Needed Items** **No glass please!**

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Canned soups, stews and chili -  
*low sodium*

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Canned veggies - *low sodium*

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Cereal - *low sugar, whole grain*

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Peanut or almond butter - *low sugar*

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Spaghetti sauce - *low sugar*

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Boxed mac & cheese

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Pasta and rice - *whole grain*

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Canned tuna and chicken

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Paper products

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Baby food, formula, and diapers

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Soap and feminine products

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Toothbrushes

*Thank You!*

[www.brafb.org](http://www.brafb.org)