



Charlottesville Catholic School

Friday Newsletter

Middle School

January 5th, 2024

Happy New Year and welcome back! We hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas Break!!

Here are some key dates to put on your radar:

- **Q2 Service logs are due Wednesday, January 10.**
- **January 12th: 11:30 dismissal, due to it being the end of second quarter and the semester.**
- **January 15th: School will be closed for in observance of Martin Luther King Day**
- **January 18th: Reading MAP Test for Middle School Students**
- **January 24th: Math MAP Test for Middle School Students**

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.**

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

6th: This week the 6th graders began their unit on the Reconstruction era of American History. Next week they will have a quiz on their block day.

7th: This week the 7th graders began their World War 2 research project. Next week they will work on their World War 2 projects.

8th: This week the 8th graders began their unit on the Roman Empire. They built shields and practiced forming the Testudo formation. Next week they will learn about the Roman Emperors who led their nation to great heights and total ruin.



Mathematics - j.garland@cvillecatholic.org & j.reid@cvillecatholic.org

Math 6 (Garland): This past week, we started our unit on Proportional Relationships, by working with ratios. This coming week, we will work with tables and graphs to put imagery behind these relationships. I plan on quizzing these initial skills on Tuesday. We will finish the week out by looking at Unit Rates as a means to “bargain shop”.

Pre-Algebra (Garland): This past week, we used our equation solving skills to help us develop solving inequalities. Next week, the students will be tasked to diagram and teach an inequality word problem to the class (as a project grade). A take-home assessment, testing the students’ skills on solving inequalities, will be given on January 10th.

Geometry (Garland): This week, we started laying the foundation for Trigonometry, by looking at the Pythagorean Theorem as a means to classify triangles and special right triangle ratios. Next week, we will study Right Triangle Trigonometry (Sine, Cosine, and Tangent) and its many uses.

Math 7 (Reid): This past week we continued working with decimal operations. We are using decimals and continuing to integrate the ideas of order of operations and signed numbers. The kids have shown incredible growth throughout the year with their concept of signed numbers and how they are related to all of the numbers they work with on a constant basis. The kids were also informed that their **2nd Quarter Binder Check on #'s 32-62 will be on Tuesday, January 9th. This will be a 20 point quiz grade weighted twice in the gradebook and will not be accepted late.** Next week we will work with scientific notation before we look to test on Decimals & Scientific Notation at the beginning of 3rd quarter.

Algebra (Reid): This past week we learned how to find the line of best fit (linear regression) given a set of data that we acquired from hula hooping. The kids definitely had a great time getting real life data for us to use in class as well as a few laughs along the way 😊 The kids were also informed that their **2nd Quarter Binder Check on #'s 29-63 will be on Tuesday, January 9th. This will be a 20 point quiz grade weighted twice in the gradebook and will not be accepted late.** Next week we will work on finding different kinds of lines (parallel & perpendicular) and eventually graph linear inequalities. We will then work towards a test on Line of Best Fit & Pairs of Lines at the beginning of 3rd quarter.

Composition, Literature, and Language Arts - h.hernandez@cvillecatholic.org & e.kerrigan@cvillecatholic.org

6th Grade Composition (Kerrigan): This week we began a grammar unit on pronouns

6th Grade Literature (Hernandez): Students did a great job with the class spelling bee this week. The school-wide competition will be on Friday the 12th. We will also continue with reading and analyzing *Hatchet*. Our 4th IRA is due this coming **Tuesday, January 9th.**

7th Language Arts (Hernandez): Students did a great job with the class spelling bee this week. The school-wide competition will be on Friday the 12th. We are starting our grammar revision, which will carry into next semester. We will also finish *Animal Farm* and likely test on it next week. Our 4th IRA is due this coming **Tuesday, January 9th.**

8th Language Arts (Hernandez): Students did a great job with the class spelling bee this week. The school-wide competition will be on Friday the 12th. We are starting some grammar revision, which will carry into next semester. We will also continue with reading and analyzing *Unbroken*. Our 4th IRA is due this coming **Tuesday, January 9th.**

Theology— d.mehl@cvillecatholic.org & v.fallica@cvillecatholic.org & h.bryan@cvillecatholic.org

6th(Mehl): We started this short week with a careful look at the Sunday readings on the Epiphany. We then did a reading assignment from the book of Genesis, this time on Jacob, as part of our continued study of the Patriarchs. On Tuesday of next week, we will have a test on the Pentateuch, the Historical Books, and the Biblical Novellas, on which the students will have to write the books in order.

7th(Mehl): We started this short week with a careful look at the Sunday readings on the Epiphany. We then read Chapter 5 of *Catholic Connections* and completed the reading guide as an assignment. On Tuesday of next week, we will have a test on the Biblical Novellas, the Wisdom Books, and the Books of the Prophets, on which the students will have to write the books in order.

8th(Fallica and Bryan): Merry Christmas! Continued blessings during the Christmas season! This week we focused on finishing up our Roman Empire maps, reading the final chapters of Acts of the Apostles, and tackling several chapters of our book "Do Hard Things". We introduced new vocabulary that is closely tied to our church projects and will take a quiz on Tuesday, Jan 9. Church projects were introduced to the students. Note, the project has 5 "checkpoints" to help students break the project down into smaller parts. Students were given an Acknowledgement Form that needs to be signed by Jan. 9. Thanks for your support in obtaining materials.

[2024 Church Project Acknowledgement form](#)

Science— m.bruscia@cvillecatholic.org

All Middle School Science Students:

This week back we focused on what I call the CCS Science Fair homestretch. In all classes we reviewed the variety of deliverables that are expected between now and February 1, the date of the CCS Science Fair. As a reminder please save this date as this is when the students will be staying after school to present their projects to the CCS community and judges. More details on this event will follow over the next few weeks. I also will be looking for any parents that are interested in judging projects. Please email me at m.bruscia@cvillecatholic.org to express your interest.

Spanish—d.demaio@cvillecatholic.org & d.mehl@cvillecatholic.org

6th(DeMaio): This week the sixth graders learned about "Los Adjetivos Posesivos=The possessive adjectives" There are several ways to show possession in Spanish. One way is to use possessive adjectives, like "my" and "your" in English.

Only *nuestro* and *vuestro* change when modifying a feminine noun. The others remain the same. All of these adjectives add an s when modifying a plural noun.

To describe ownership expressed with "s" in English, use the construction (object)+de+(subject) Example: John's book.....El libro de John.

7th(DeMaio): The seventh graders have been learning to express how to say "what you like to do " and "what you don't like to do". (Me gusta mucho, Me gusta, No me gusta) This week they worked on an oral presentation in which, using a diagram to organize their ideas, they had to make a slide presentation to speak in front of the class in Spanish about their likes and dislikes. Next week they will focus more on infinitives, the verb, negatives, expressing agreement or disagreement.

8th(Mehl): This week we returned to our novella *Pobre Ana*. The students read a number of pages on their own, after which we read and translated together, looking at grammatical

structures that we have studied and will soon study. On Tuesday we will have a quiz on demonstratives.