



**Charlottesville
Catholic School**
Christ Community Scholars

Charlottesville Catholic School

Friday Newsletter

2nd Grade

10/20/2023

Teacher's Message/Announcements

- Our field trip to the Paramount is on Monday!!!! After carline, please make sure to drop off your child's booster seat in the covered area in front of the school. **Don't forget to label the booster seat with your child's first name and last initial...masking tape works great!** If your child no longer requires a booster/car seat, please email me ASAP! Please send snack and lunch as usual.
- Homework Change! Beginning on Monday 10/23, **spelling and math homework will now be OPTIONAL**. Students will still write homework in agendas so that families are aware of which pages coincide with current lessons should they choose to continue with nightly/weekly homework.
- Witches, and robots, and fairies, oh my! Join us for the JK-2nd Grade Halloween Parade on Tuesday, October 31 at 8:15 am on the sidewalk and blacktop (no need to come inside). It will indeed be cuteness overload!
- La la la la! If your happy Hawk would like to perfect his/her performance for the upcoming CCS Veterans Day Service, check out this [link](#).
- As Hispanic Heritage Month comes to a close, the Hawks and I are feeling grateful and blessed...we're grateful to the Hawk mommies who joined our class to share stories, snacks, and anecdotes, and grateful to our school for planning such a beautiful and special bilingual Mass on Tuesday. What a privilege it is to learn about the world around us!
- Picture perfect!!!! Your Hawk's adorable yearbook/school picture is ready and available for order! **The deadline to order photos is Monday, October 23**...delivery of prints ordered after this date cannot be guaranteed before Thanksgiving, so place your order NOW! If you do not select a picture to be used in the yearbook, one will be selected for you.

- VOLUNTEERS ACQUIRED! – **All Saints Day** (11/1) - Thank you to those parents who have volunteered to assist in our Hall of Saints set up!

Calendar/Important Dates

10/20 - End of 1st Quarter, 11:30 am Dismissal
10/23- Field Trip to the Paramount Theater
10/27 - 1st Quarter Report Cards released
10/31 - Halloween parade, 8:15 (sidewalk and blacktop)
11/1 - All Saints Day Mass (8:10-9:10) and Second Grade Wax Museum, 10:00-11:30 am
11/16 - Theatrical Performance of "A Native American Cinderella," 12:45-1:30 pm
11/20-11/24 - Thanksgiving Break
12/14 - JK-2 Concert
12/19 - Polar Express (volunteer timing TBD)
1/10 - Science Day (volunteering timing TBD)
3/13- Roald Dahl Day (volunteer timing TBD)
4/24 - Trashion Show, 2:15-2:45 pm (CCS Gym)

Teacher email addresses

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Social Studies/Science

After defining matter as all things that take up space and have mass, these savvy scientists brainstormed a giant list of the matter that they see around them, realizing it's literally everywhere! The Hawks learned all about the three states/phases of matter (solid, liquid, and gas), how to distinguish between each stage, what causes a change in state (increase or decrease in temperature), and how the particles in each state of matter differ (we acted this out...so fun!).

Armed with expertise, the Hawks conducted experiments in the classroom and in the STEM lab. Ask them how they made water appear in a plastic bag using nothing but their breath, how they captured a gas, and why Ivory soap expands in the microwave!

Your curious cutie will be treated to tons of experiments over the next two weeks, where science meets *spooky!* Hands-on and discovery learning build deep understanding!

The Native American projects will be sent home next week. Please send in a paper grocery bag (or other large bag) so they can be easily transported home. Thank you!

Math

Our recent addition adventures and subtraction safaris allowed our masterful mathematicians to delve into the study of fact families/related facts and missing addends.

They used these skills to solve story problems using a variety of strategies, including counting on, counting back, drawing, mental math, and solving with equations. Regardless of the chosen strategy, the Hawks are all learning to discern what they know versus what they need to know, identify target words/phrases that indicate which operation to use, and write a complete equation with the numbers in the correct order.

Let's build automaticity with math facts! Please help your Hawk practice addition and subtraction facts daily. We're in this together!

Language Arts/Reading/Writing

From the pan dulce of Mexico to the cuatro of Venezuela, the Hawks gobbled up nonfiction passages, building comprehension, fluency, and decoding skills. These short texts featured questions related to main idea, character, setting, and theme. While nonfiction passages will continue to pepper our literacy block throughout the year, we'll soon turn our focus to the genre of fiction.

Phew! What. A. Week! The writing process has taken center stage, and let me tell you...the Hawks are writing machines! Your beautiful biographer composed a rough draft, conferenced to revise and improve, and produced a final copy worthy of his/her incredible project! The Hawks are thrilled to showcase their first published writing pieces at the All Saints Day Wax Museum. #AwesomeAuthors #TheirReportsWillKnockYourSocksOff!

Next week, we will settle back into a slightly more normal Literacy routine. Spelling will resume (homework optional), reading groups will meet, and many books will be devoured! We'll also begin rehearsing for our upcoming reader's theater production of "A Native American Cinderella!"

If your child would like to complete **optional** spelling activities at home, check out the [homework menu](#).

Theology

Our radiant researchers have completed the final drafts of their Saint paragraphs. Final drafts were sent home in folders on Wednesday for memorization and use on posters. Here is a link to [project guidelines](#). Now that the school portion of this project is complete, please begin home components of the project with your child, and make a plan for how to use the remaining time wisely. Thank you for your support and partnership! So blessed!

The Hawks are eagerly anticipating the opportunity to process in and lead Mass on All Saints Day! We're using our Chapel time to prepare. Second grade will lead Mass two more times this year, enabling every Hawk to have the chance to participate.

Halloween

Students in JK-2 may wear an appropriate Halloween costume to school, paired with school-approved shoes. Please make sure your dressed-up darling is able to remove his/her costume and be in school uniform if the costume is uncomfortable or distracting. While masks and props definitely enhance a costume, they are NOT permitted at school.