



**Charlottesville
Catholic School**
Christ Community Scholars

Charlottesville Catholic School

Friday Newsletter

Middle School

Dear middle school parents,

Many middle school students are currently finding the school's policy regarding cell phones to be challenging. As stated in the Parent/Student Handbook, "Cell phones are not allowed during the school day or during school-related activities without permission from the adult in charge." Students do not need phones at school. There are numerous landlines available to students, and all faculty and staff members have the school's phone service on their cell phones. Please speak to your child about the policy and the importance of leaving their phones at home.

Thank you.
Vada Fallica

On October 27th, the Middle School will have a service day, where we will depart CCS after mass and volunteer within the community. A parent permission form went home that day that needs to be returned to your child's homeroom teacher (it looks similar to the FANS event form) That day will be a Blue/Gold day for attire and all students will have to pack a brown bag/disposable lunch that day. (Please make sure to not schedule Yay Lunch for your student that day) Kids are more than welcome to bring their water bottles. One of our projects for the elementary day of service is to make bags for the HAVEN to hand out. The goal for each class is to collect 100 of the items below. (please note there are specific items for grades 6 - 8 to bring in):

6th grade: Pocket tissues and wipes

7th grade: Washcloths

8th grade: Disposable razors

Our next FANS event will be a Middle School Halloween Dance on October 28th, from 7pm - 9pm, in the school cafeteria. Your support helps make FANS events successful. Here is a link to sign up to bring in snacks for the dance: [Halloween Dance Snack Sign Up Form](#)

On October 31st, Grades 6 - 8 will have a Halloween Tag Day.

For Tag Day, students must be in their uniforms, but may wear Halloween-themed accessories. Parameters for those accessories are as follows:

Allowed:

Socks
Belts
Earrings
Necklace
Ribbons
Halloween bracelets
Headbands with stabilized decor
(i.e. cat ears)

Not Allowed:

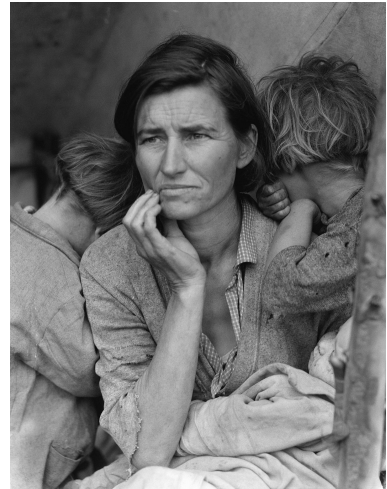
Hats
Sunglasses
Wigs
Masks
T-shirts
Headbands with flying objects
Anything flashing
Costumes/teeth/fangs

Social Studies - r.hendrick@cvillecatholic.org

6th: This week the 6th graders made trading cards about the key figures of the Civil War. Next week they will take their unit test on the Civil War.

7th: This week the 7th graders finished up their 1920s test. Next week on Monday they will take their unit test on the 1920s and then move on to the Great Depression.

8th: This week the 8th graders learned about Alexander the Great as they finished their unit on the Iron Age. Next week we will kick off our unit on the Roman Republic.



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

Math 6 (Garland): We finished up this last week comparing and ordering rational numbers. Next week, we will work on Adding and Subtracting Fractions. I plan on assessing fraction simplification, comparing/ordering, and Adding/Subtracting Fractions on Friday, October 28th.

Pre-Algebra (Garland): We spent the end of the week reviewing for our test on the second unit, entitled "Algebraic Expressions". Pre-Algebra will test on Monday, October 24th. Afterwards, we will start our third unit, entitled, "Equations and Inequalities." Emphasis will be placed on showing work, through inverse operations, as well as the final answer.

Geometry (Garland): We finished this past week testing on Angles of Transversals. As a reminder, the students' parallel town project is due this coming Monday. We will start our new unit, "Triangles and Polygons", by focusing on proving why there are a 180 degrees in a

triangle(using angles of transversals), the Exterior Angle Theorem, and how these concepts lead us to the ability of being able to calculate angles associated with Polygons.

Math 7 (Reid): This week we have started to work with fractions by comparing and ordering them. We also have added and subtracted fractions with like denominators. We will finish out the week (and the 1st quarter) with our notebook check on Thursday of this week. Next week, we will add & subtract fractions with unlike denominators as well as multiplying & dividing them.

Algebra (Reid): This week we started to work with inequalities by solving & graphing them in 1 variable. On Thursday, the last day of the quarter we will be having the only notebook check of the quarter which is a quiz grade. Next week we will start solving & graphing compound inequalities.

Composition, Literature, and Language

Arts—e.kerrigan@cvillecatholic.org & l.lowdon@cvillecatholic.org

6th Grade Composition (Kerrigan): Students took a test on sentences on Monday, and then we spent Wednesday studying for Thursday's vocabulary test in multiple different ways, using the textbook, playing Blookets and turning the words into a story. Blooket imports flashcards directly from Quizlet and turns them into fun, interactive ways to learn the words. The site has been down for several weeks, and the students are thrilled that it is back up and running!

Next week, we will begin a focused unit on nouns, while continuing to look at them in the broader context of a sentence. I am also asking students to memorize the verses in the preposition song.

6th Grade Literature (Kerrigan): This week, we said goodbye to Grandma Dowdel and her grandchildren, Joey and Mary Alice, in *A Long Way from Chicago* and began our unit on *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen. It is an adventure novel about a young teen's struggles alone in the wilderness after surviving a plane crash. We started out the week with a freewriting exercise on imagining we were alone and stranded in the Blue Ridge Mountains. In freewriting, students are given a writing prompt and instructed to start writing and keep writing. No rules, no grades. This unstructured technique is designed to encourage creativity and improve writing efficiency. While freewriting is about the process over the product, the students do love to come to the front of the class and share their writing when we have time! Next week, we will dive deeper into the novel.

7th Language Arts (Lowdon): We experienced a fabulous field trip to the Fralin Museum to see the artwork for the Writer's Eye writing contest! Thank you, parent drivers and our own gifted art teacher, Vanessa Devlin. Students had time to write in class and will continue to look at the art work (online) and write at home. The final pieces are due on Thursday, November 10. We got a bit of a late start this week learning the new vocabulary words. The test will be announced. The first IRA for the second quarter is due on Friday, November 18;

students should choose a book and be reading steadily. Students are to read Ch. 13 in *The Giver* by Monday.

8th Language Arts (Lowdon): We spent time this week writing poetry/prose in response to art; students will be choosing one piece to enter into the Writer's Eye writing contest. Entries are due on Thursday, November 10. We will be reading pages 185-210 in *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Monday; there will be a quiz on the poems. There is a vocabulary test on block day next week; this list of words is complex, and students should take extra time to learn how to use the words correctly in sentences. The first IRA for the second quarter is due on Friday, November 18; students should choose a book and be reading steadily.

Religion—a.sisman@cvillecatholic.org

6th: This week, students have been sharing their Faith Timelines which were due on Monday. We have all been enjoying learning about their lives and the people and moments that have helped them to become who they are today. In addition, we had a visit from Father Dan, who took a variety of questions from the students. He is a very fun and animated speaker, so the students really enjoyed his visit. I even had a student tell me later that that "class was a 12 out of 10!"



7th: Students prepared for and took a test on the Gospels of John and Luke and the Acts of the Apostles. In addition, we had a visit from Father Dan, who took a variety of questions from the students. He is a very fun and animated speaker, so the students really enjoyed his visit. I even had a student tell me later that that "class was a 12 out of 10!"

8th: Students in 8th took a tough test on Church History on Monday. There was a lot to cover! I offered an extra credit opportunity for them to display their understanding of the content. In addition, we had a visit from Father Dan, who took a variety of questions from the students. He is a very fun and animated speaker, so the students really enjoyed his visit. I even had a student tell me later that that "class was a 12 out of 10!"

Science—m.bruscia@cvillecatholic.org

6th: This week students continued to work on their Mitosis/Meiosis board games and 3d printed pawns. In addition, we had fun learning about speed and velocity with the GForce Pocketlab sensors. Students worked with hot wheels, track and cars to measure speed and velocity in different configurations. Next week We will continue with genetics and heredity.

7th: This week we continued with the periodic table as well as worked with GForce Pocketlab sensors. We constructed experiments and recorded data collected with these

awesome devices. Students explored changes in height and input force and the effects on speed. Next week we will continue with the periodic table.

8th: This week we finished with our Mars lab with successful rocket launches. We also had an opportunity to review Newton's laws in relation to rocket science and speed. We designed experiments with speed using the Pocketlab sensors and hot wheels track. Next week we will start exploring the spheres of Earth.

Spanish—j.osteen@cvillecatholic.org

7th and 8th: This week students have been practicing conjugating verbs and working on their projects. The project is a verb book and showcases their knowledge of conjugating regular ar, er, and ir verbs and writing short sentences using them.

It is crazy to think that we are already done with the first quarter! This quarter students have learned to have basic conversations (greetings, basic questions, pleasantries, ect) , talk about the calendar, conjugate regular verbs, and read, write, speak and understand simple sentences and cognate heavy sentences and passages.

In addition, we have studied spanish speaking countries, celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month with a variety of activities and have begun Locotubre. Locotubre is a world-wide competition of Spanish songs. We listen to two songs in each class and everyone votes. The winners progress to the next round. We will do comprehension activities and learn more about the artists. This is a great way for students to be exposed to different cultures, accents, vocabulary and new music!