



**Charlottesville
Catholic School**
Christ Community Scholars

Charlottesville Catholic School

Friday Newsletter

Middle School

November 17th, 2023

- On Thursday, November 30, John Kronstain will present “Are They OK? - Building a Better Understanding of Anxiety and How it Could be Impacting Your Child” for CCS parents at 7:00PM in the Performance Hall. Please use the form below to RSVP, as seating will be limited. Please note that childcare will not be provided. [November 30 Speaker Series RSVP](#)
- **Lunch Reminder: Today was the last day of Yay Lunch service. While we have secured a new lunch provider, they are not able to start service until January. ALL students will need to pack a lunch every day from November 27 through December 19. More information regarding our new provider will be forthcoming.**
- Winter dress **begins Monday, November 27**. Please see the Uniform Policy (located in the Resource Documents section of FACTS) for winter dress parameters.
- **School will be closed, for Thanksgiving Break, from November 18th through November 26th. We hope everyone has a relaxing time away from school, surrounded by loved ones and good food. Classes will resume on November 27th**
- **Middle School Midterm Exams will be on Thursday(12/14), Friday (12/15), and Monday (12/18)**

- **Please remember with cooler temperatures settling in, students need to dress appropriately for outside. If there is no precipitation, Middle School students eat outside and do outside recess each and every day.**
- The originally published dates for the CCS Christmas Concerts have changed slightly. While the 3rd-5th Grade concert will remain on Tuesday, December 12, the JK-2nd Grade concert has been moved to **Wednesday, December 13**. Both concerts start at 6:15PM—students will need to arrive at school ***no later than 5:45PM***.
- Join the Fun! Camp4Real Kids Night Out is Coming to Charlottesville Catholic on Dec. 15! Kids Night Out (KNO) is a three-hour drop-off event featuring a catered dinner and an exciting lineup of engaging P.E.-style games and activities for children in kindergarten through 6th grade! Family fun with an impact! Camp4Real is proud to support the CCS community and will donate a portion of the event proceeds right back to our school! Discounted early registration is now open! [Click here](#) to learn more and snag your child's spot!

Social Studies - r.hendrick@cvillecatholic.org

6th: This week the 6th graders learned about the three branches of US government. When we return from break they will look into the ways in which they check and balance each other.

7th: This week the 7th graders learned about the beginning of World War 2. When we return from break they will look into the German invasion of the Soviet Union and the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.



8th: This week the 8th graders finished their unit on the Iron Age Empires. When we come back from break they will begin exploring the rise of the Roman civilization.

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

Math 6 (Garland): This past week, we solidified our skills with addition, subtraction, and multiplication of decimals. When we return from break, we will work on division of decimals.

Pre-Algebra (Garland): This past week, we finished working with combining like terms, whether variables were present on both sides of the equation or not. Emphasis was placed on “moving the lighter load”. The week after Thanksgiving, we will introduce solving equations by clearing fractions, a way to make equations appear easier. I plan on assessing

the students on November 29th on their equation solving skills. We will then get into translating phrases into solvable equations.

Geometry (Garland): This past week, we introduced CPCTC...corresponding parts of congruent triangles are congruent. This concept not only allows students to solve for missing parts of congruent triangles, but it will allow them to prove pieces of congruent triangles congruent. When we return from break, we will discuss two column proofs with focus directed on proving triangles congruent(SAS, ASA, AAS, and SSS) AND proving parts of congruent triangles congruent(CPCTC).

Math 7 (Reid): This past week we continued our work with fractions and focused on the skill of canceling out a common factor when we are multiplying and dividing fractions. The kids will have their 2nd test of the 2nd Quarter the week we get back from Thanksgiving Break on their block day (either Wednesday 11.29 or Thursday 11.30) on Fractions and Their Operations. On Monday, November 13th, the kids gained access to a digital copy of "Math 7 Exam Review". I also emailed all of you and gave you digital access to the document as well. This assignment is intended to help students study for their 1st semester exams. I think that studying for little bits over an extended period of time will be more beneficial to them than trying to cram information into their brains right before exams. **This assignment will be due on Monday, December 11th.** It is a "living document" meaning that I will continue to add sections with the new material we learn up until Christmas Break. No new material for the exam will be introduced after Monday, December 8th. This assignment will be graded based on completion (not accuracy). Although I do hope that accuracy is the goal as we move towards exams. This assignment will not be accepted late or incomplete. It will be counted as a 20 point homework assignment weighted twice in the gradebook.

Algebra (Reid): This past week we solved for a specific variable and we also did The Vase Activity looking at a real life application of slope and what it represents. Next week, we will start finding the equations of the lines that we will graph! On Monday, November 13th, the kids gained access to a digital copy of "Algebra 1 Exam Review". I also emailed all of you and gave you digital access to the document as well. This assignment is intended to help students study for their 1st semester exams. I think that studying for little bits over an extended period of time will be more beneficial to them than trying to cram information into their brains right before exams. **This assignment will be due on Monday, December 11th.** It is a "living document" meaning that I will continue to add sections with the new material we learn up until Christmas Break. No new material for the exam will be introduced after Monday, December 8th. This assignment will be graded based on completion (not accuracy). Although I do hope that accuracy is the goal as we move towards exams. This assignment will not be accepted late or incomplete. It will be counted as a 20 point homework assignment weighted twice in the gradebook.

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

6th Grade Composition (Kerrigan): This week, we wrapped up our unit on nouns as objects and subject complements. When we return from break, we will be expanding upon the concepts we have already studied in the first semester by doing their compound versions -

compound sentences, compound predicates, and compound objects. A quiz on compounds, and their “rocket ship” diagrams, will be the last content prior to our exam review. Students will review a comprehensive study guide review packet on Monday, Dec. 5.

In *Vocabulary Power Plus*, we finished Lesson 8 this past week. When we return from break, Lesson 9 will be the last new vocab lesson before the exam. The VPP test on Lessons 7-9 will be Dec. 8.

And one last thing – We’ve been diagramming sentences about *A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving*, but I wasn’t able to squeeze a viewing of it into class. It’s free on Apple+, with free trials, so if your child might enjoy watching it over break! Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

6th Grade Literature (Hernandez): This week, we continued our reading and analysis of *A Long Way from Chicago*. Students prepared and presented research on topics relating to the book (1930s background information). We will finish the book and test on it after the break. Our IRA is due soon after the break on the 28th.

7th Language Arts (Hernandez): This week, we began reading and thinking about George Orwell’s classic satirical novel, *Animal Farm*. We reflected on leadership and power and the ways in which leaders persuade people to follow them. The students did some background research on topics relating to Orwell’s life and to the themes of the book. We will continue our study of *Animal Farm* after the break and will delve into some grammar prior to the midterm exam. Our IRA is due soon after the break on the 28th.

8th Language Arts (Hernandez): This week, we finished a final reflection on *The Outsiders* and students were tested on the novel. In addition to the test, the 8th graders are writing a piece in which they imagine interviewing a character from *The Outsiders*. After the break, we will begin talking about biographical writing and war and will start reading *Unbroken* (the YA version). Our IRA is due soon after the break on the 28th.

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

6th(Mehl): This week we did Bible readings from the Pentateuch, with a focus on covenants. We also read Chapter 6 of *Catholic Connections*, which is on Creation and the existence of evil. The Sunday Gospel reading, the Parable of the Talents, gave us much to reflect on. We talked about the gifts that we receive from God and the responsibility we have to use them. When we return from the break, we will continue our exploration of the Old Testament.

7th(Mehl): This week we did select Gospel readings on Simon Peter. In these readings we learned about Peter’s imperfections, giving us the chance to reflect on how we can achieve greatness in our faith despite our own flaws. The Sunday Gospel reading, the Parable of the Talents, gave us much to reflect on, especially in the light of the readings about Peter. We talked about the gifts that we receive from God and the responsibility we have to use them. We also did Chapter 29 of *Catholic Connections* this week, which has End Things as its topic. We will continue to explore this theme when we return from break.

8th(Fallica and Bryan): This week, we studied the effects of Constantine's leadership on the spread of Christianity. In our ongoing reading of ACTS, we are reminded about the healing power of God's grace as we read about how Jesus' disciples healed the faithful on their journeys.

Each of us has a vocation given to us by God. To help students learn more about their vocations, we spent a class period discussing how we can discern how God is working in us to help navigate our spiritual life to find peace in ourselves and help others.

We are looking forward to our field trip to St. Thomas and begin discussing the Church Projects!

Science— m.bruscia@cvillecatholic.org

6th: This week we practiced making punnett squares. Next week we will start to discover the science of taxonomy.

7th: This week we discovered acids and bases and experimented testing the pH as well as launching baking soda rockets. Next week we will experiment with the different types of chemical reactions such as combustion.

8th: This week we made our own dough to use in modeling the layers of the Earth. Next week we will investigate Plate tectonics.

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

6th(DeMaio): This week the sixth graders learned more about personal pronouns and their uses. They did activities to distinguish:

- Which pronoun to use, for example "you" when speaking to your sister: Tú.
- When to write the correct pronoun for each subject
- Recognize and write when the pronoun is used in plural
- Write sentences using the appropriate pronoun. Example: "Maria is my friend" = Ella es mi amiga.

Next theme: El género de los nombres/The Gender of Nouns and Los nombres plurales/plural nouns

7th(DeMaio): This week the seventh grade students continued learning and practicing how to tell the time in Spanish. They learned how to tell time on the hour, quarter, and half hour, how to tell time on the hour and after the hour (:00 through :30) and finally before the hour "5 minutes to 1". "Es la una menos cinco"

Among the class work that they did both oral and written were:

- Have to match written times with clocks.
- Students have to draw the hands on clocks.
- To write the digital time

- To write what time it is based on clocks.
- Students took turns asking a partner "¿qué hora es?" and using the times on their papers to ask a prompt for their answers.
- Students have to match written times with digital times.
- Students have to write what time it is based on digital times.
- Students have to write what time it is when they do various activities each day.

Next theme: ¿Qué te gusta hacer? Grammar: Infinitives, negatives and expressing agreement or disagreement.

8th(Mehl): This week we took a quiz on affirmative tú commands and the present progressive tense. We did a conversational reading from our novella *Pobre Ana*. Some of the students played roles from the story, and everybody had the chance to respond to different questions, either as the audience or as the characters. We did a series of video lessons and watched another video presentation on e-ie stem changing verbs, which is one of our current grammatical topics. We will continue to work on this after break. We will also work on demonstrative pronouns and our list of vocabulary on classroom objects.



November Nurse's Notes

If at any time you have questions or concerns, please reach out to me directly at s.queheillalt@cvillecatholic.org or 434-964-0400.

Cold, Flu, RSV, Strep and COVID season is upon us. One of the best ways to prevent illness and its spread, is good hand washing. When soap and water aren't available, alcohol based hand sanitizer can do the trick. Remember to thoroughly rub all hand/finger surfaces and to scrub for 20 seconds. Sing a happy tune as you go! Cough and sneeze into your elbow and when possible avoid crowded places and spending time with those who are sick or having symptoms. See the links for more information.

[CDC - Flu](#) [CDC - RSV](#) [CDC - Strep](#) [CDC - COVID](#)

CCS illness policy abides by the Virginia Department of Health (VDOH) guidelines which requires students to remain home until **FEVER FREE** for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing agents. Fever Free is a temperature of less than 100.1°F. Also, gastrointestinal (GI) issues such as vomit and diarrhea, must remain home until 24 hours free of symptoms. **After any illness, students should not return to school unless they can successfully make it through the day. Reminder! No medications including cough drops will be dispensed without a licensed medical provider's order.**

CCS will notify families of any infectious outbreaks that occur within the school setting. Per the VDOH, an outbreak is the occurrence of more cases of disease than expected. There is no strict definition of an outbreak or specific number of cases that need to occur to be considered an outbreak.

| SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS | COLD | FLU |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Symptom onset | Gradual | Abrupt |
| Fever | Rare | Usual |
| Aches | Slight | Usual |
| Chills | Uncommon | Fairly common |
| Fatigue, weakness | Sometimes | Usual |
| Sneezing | Common | Sometimes |
| Chest discomfort, cough | Mild to moderate | Common |
| Stuffy nose | Common | Sometimes |
| Sore throat | Common | Sometimes |
| Headache | Rare | Common |

#FIGHT FLU

Colder Weather means Warmer Clothes

Please remember that upon our return from Thanksgiving break, winter dress is in place. Children also need to be sent with appropriate weather clothing. This could mean gloves, hats, coats/jackets, etc. As more items are worn into school, less items may make it home. Please write your child's name in any items you wish not to lose.

