



# Charlottesville Catholic School

## Friday Newsletter

### Middle School



(image is from the Middle School Halloween Dance)

We wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving!! **Please remember that students are to be in Winter Dress when we return from that break.** Also, when we return from break, we will be in Advent. Our plan is to light an Advent wreath in each classroom in recognition of this holy time.

This year, our middle school students (G6 and G7) are responsible for sponsoring our participation in the Barracks Road Holiday Parade. The parade is being held on the morning of Dec 3 at 9:30AM. We are asking as many of our middle school students (8th grade too) to participate and march in the parade. They'll be handing out candy canes and Charlottesville Catholic invite cards, welcoming folks to visit our fabulous school! Please sign up here <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4caeea2da02-barracks> Students should plan to wear their most school spirited outfit (Go Gold! Go Blue!) and are welcome to add a holiday touch (Santa/Elf Hat, necklaces, etc). Service time will also be given for community outreach!

Parents, as a middle school team, we ask that you check in on your child's supplies of pencils, pens, highlighters, and lined paper. **IF** they are running low, please replenish them. It is important for their class preparation. Thank you for your help.

Students have already begun preparing for this year's Christmas Concert, which will be held on Wednesday, December 14th. If you would be willing to volunteer to help Ms. Wisbey, please email her at [k.wisbey@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:k.wisbey@cvillecatholic.org)

Student Midterm exams will be held on Tuesday(12/13), Wednesday(12/14), and Thursday(12/15). Students will take 2 exams per day. A formal schedule will be discussed with your child in the next couple of weeks.

**Uniform Update:** Middle school girls may wear sweatpants of any color under their winter uniforms for recess.

### **December 5-9: St. Nick's Shop**

The Cville Catholic School St. Nick's shop is a chance for students in JK-5th grade to shop for some small holiday gifts for family members. The shop will offer items ranging from \$2-\$15 that students can choose to purchase for family members (sibling gifts are available in the lower dollar range and some of the parent gifts are in the upper range). The week before the event, a form will be sent home for parents to complete listing the names of each gift recipient and dollar amount range that each student can spend per person on the list. Participation is optional. Parents can elect to donate any unspent funds to the school, or request change.

Each class will have a designated shopping day/time. A few students at a time will go in to shop (the rest of the class will watch a Christmas movie while waiting). Once inside, each shopper will walk around with a volunteer parent shopper to help them choose gifts within their shopping budget. Gifts will be wrapped by a separate set of parents. Volunteers are needed to help with shopping and check-out/wrapping.

If you're interested in helping out during the week, please sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F45AFAD2FAAFCC70-stnicks>

If your middle school child would like to help set up and earn school service hours for the St. Nick Shop on Thursday, December 2:

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

### **Toy Lift**

The 8th grade will be collecting helmets to support the Toy Lift. They are in need of youth medium and large helmets and ask that they be SNELL and/or CPSC rated. Students will be collecting the helmets the week after Thanksgiving. All families are encouraged to donate.

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

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6th: This week the 6th graders finished their Civil War Unit. Next week we will put the finishing touches on our Newspaper Project before we head off to Thanksgiving break.

7th: This week the 7th graders finished their 1930s unit. Next week will discuss the rise of dictators and take out unit test on Monday before heading off to break.

8th: This week the 8th graders finished their Roman Empire unit. Next week they will finish exploring the causes of the fall of the Roman Empire.



## 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, we focused on using Graph Paper to aid in the operations of addition, subtraction, and multiplication of decimals. On the days leading into Thanksgiving Break, we will review decimal division. Students will test on Decimal Operations on November 29th.

Pre-Algebra (Garland): This past week, we finished up all of our categories of equation solving. On Monday and Tuesday of this coming week, the students will use their skills to solve a dad joke riddle. I plan on assessing on these skills when we return from Thanksgiving Break.

Geometry (Garland): This past week, we solidified our understanding of Proving Triangles Congruent. Over the 2 days next week, I plan on quizzing on Congruent Triangles (Monday) and giving an SOL Practice on Triangles and Polygons on Tuesday. I plan on testing the Tuesday after break on Triangles and Polygons.

Math 7 (Reid): This past week we finished our unit on Fractions & Their Operations by completing the test. We started our unit on decimals and their operations with signed numbers. Mrs. Reid also has started to create an assignment called the Math 7 Exam Review. This is an attempt to have the kids start practicing for exams and give the kids the gift of time if that is something they would like to take advantage of. There will be a few more additions to this document as we acquire some more skills before Christmas Break, but please ask your child to see the document. This is a great way to see all of the skills the kids have developed and refined all year. I'm very proud of them and all of their hard work!

Algebra (Reid): This past week we analyzed the Vase Activity as our springboard into the study of slope & graphing lines from slope-intercept form ( $y=mx +b$ ). We learned how to formally calculate slope and next week we will be starting to graph lines **without** any aids of the graphing calculator or Desmos. Mrs. Reid also shared a living document called Algebra 1 Exam Review. This is an assignment that will be due before students take exams in an effort to help them study. The purpose in sharing this document now is to allow the

kids time to work on it if they would like the gift of time. Some students will want to work on the assignment little by little while others will want to work on it the closer we get to exams. Please remember that this document will continue to be added to as we approach exams. Please ask your child to look at the document with you so you can see all of the wonderful skills they have gained so far this year! I am so proud of all of them and all of their hard work so far this year!

## Composition, Literature, and Language

**Arts**—[e.kerrigan@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:e.kerrigan@cvillecatholic.org) & [l.lowdon@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:l.lowdon@cvillecatholic.org)

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6th Grade Composition (Kerrigan): This week, we wrapped up our study of nouns as subject complements and objects with a test on Thursday. Next week we will look at other uses of nouns before going on Thanksgiving break. Vocabulary Power Plus lessons will kick back up again when we return.

6th Grade Literature (Kerrigan): This week, we finished our study of *Hatchet* with a test on Friday. We have also been working on our *Hatchet* project, which is due Tuesday. The instructions are available on Google Classroom.

7th Language Arts (Lowdon): Students designed symbols to represent themes in *The Giver* on Thursday. After they present them on Friday, we will officially wrap up our study of this thought-provoking novel. Next week we work on revising and editing the essays written in class. When we return from Thanksgiving break, we will begin our study of two novellas by John Steinbeck. Vocabulary instruction will center on the Wordly Wise books now available for use. The second IRA is due Friday, Jan. 6, 2023. Have a blessed Thanksgiving break. May we all feel the presence and comfort of God after a challenging week.

8th Language Arts (Lowdon): This week, students took a test on *Brown Girl Dreaming*. On Friday they presented their projects on the book. Next week they work on revising and editing their essays after reviewing the feedback I have provided each student. The Memoir Project is due on Dec. 12. Vocabulary instruction will center on the Wordly Wise books now available for use. The second IRA is due Friday, Jan. 6, 2023. Have a blessed Thanksgiving break. May we all feel the presence and comfort of God after a challenging week.

**Religion**—[a.sisman@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:a.sisman@cvillecatholic.org)

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6th: This week, we discussed creation, both visible and invisible. Students also brainstormed ways that God is still creating and how we are co-creators with Him. Next we will discuss what Advent is and how we can prepare for Christmas in a meaningful way.

7th: This week, the 7th grade has been discussing the early letters of St. Paul, focusing on themes such as easing anxiety of early Christians, creating unity, and encouragement. Next we will discuss what Advent is and how we can prepare for Christmas in a meaningful way.

8th: We have been learning about the Enlightenment and some of the events that were prompted by the new ideas that emerged from it, such as the French Revolution and the new form of government in America. We also discussed the challenges that the Church faced during this time. We will continue these lessons next week and begin to prepare for Advent by helping to plan a Toy Lift helmet drive.

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

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6th: This week we continued to learn about genetics vs the environment. We discussed traits that we receive from our parents. Next week we will apply this knowledge to creating monsters.

7th: This week we continued to learn about the periodic table and started to discuss oxidation numbers and how to bond elements together to create compounds. Next week we will discuss ionic and covalent bonds.

8th: This week we discussed the theory of plate tectonics. We reviewed a case study of fossils found high in the Atacama desert and discussed how this was deposited. Next week we will discover Volcanos and Earthquakes.

## Spanish—[j.osteen@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:j.osteen@cvillecatholic.org)

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This week we worked on parts of the body, the verb tener (to have) and noun/adjective agreement. The students were able to construct sentences using these three themes to talk about themselves and other people. A few examples: Yo tengo pelo rubio (I have blonde hair). Ellos tienen ojos marrones. (They have brown eyes) Tú tienes dientes blancos (You have white teeth).

This week we also began our next project. Students are creating monsters and are going to present them next week before break. They will have to talk about what the monsters look like, how they are feeling, their names, etc. This will be the first project where students present in front of the class. It would be a great idea for them to practice at home over the weekend!