



# Charlottesville Catholic School October Specialist Newsletter 2022

## Announcements

12/14 at 6:15 in the Gym – Christmas Concert and Art Display

Library - Jennifer Furin/ [j.furin@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:j.furin@cvillecatholic.org)



K-1st graders are learning about book care, hearing stories by Hispanic authors and stories about fall.

All students in 1st - 5th have been given a “dot color” which helps them self select a book that is within the range of their reading level. These “dot color” books are stories that they should be able to read independently!

Second graders have enjoyed our story Miss Daisy is Crazy. We have also heard stories written by Hispanic authors. Next, we will be learning about the components of the Mystery genre. We will read a Cam Jansen mystery book as a class.

Third graders are enjoying a book called The Chocolate Touch. The story is patterned after the story about King Midas, whose magic turned everything he touched into gold. Next,

the third grade will explore the science fiction/ historical fiction genre.

Fourth and fifth graders have picked out fiction books for their assignments in LA class. We are reading the classic story The Voyages of Dr. Dolittle in fourth grade and a book called Schooled by Gordon Korman in fifth grade.

### Library days

K: Thursday/Friday

2nd grade: Monday/Thursday

4th grade: Friday

1st: Monday/Thursday

3rd grade: Tuesday

5th grade: Monday

### **K-2: Underhand and Overhand Throw**

We used the month of October to introduce and implement throwing skills. The objectives measured were Technique. When using the overhand throw - My common cues used when teaching are “Step, Twist, and Turn.” When using the Underhand Throw/Toss - My common cues are “Swing, step, Throw/Toss.” I did mention the progressions of Accuracy and Power but I did not measure those as objectives to be assessed.

K-2nd students were able to practice their skills individually, in small sided games, and in station activities. This is such an awesome young group of excited kids! They bring so much energy to class and cannot wait to do any and every activity.

An example game below:

“Oscar's Trash Can” - Short version is students practice throwing skills into targets (Trashcans) and inside these Targets are little grumpy “Oscar’s” throwing any of the ball equipment back out. At the end of the round, students will have worked hard throwing their trash into the trash cans and the Oscar’s will have worked hard to throw the trash back out.



### **3-5: Overhand Throw / Cooperative and collaborative Throwing Activities**

We used the month of October to introduce and implement throwing skills. The objectives measured were Technique, Accuracy, and Power. My common cues used when teaching progressions are “Step, Twist, and Turn.” Once we can grasp the technique and progress to accuracy, we talk about squaring our shoulders and our bodies to our target. Lastly, we progress to power and explore the speed of our body movements through the techniques previously learned in order to increase our throwing power. The 3rd through 5th graders were able to practice their skills individually, in small sided games, and in larger cognitive and communal games.

## 6-8: Tactical and Invasion Unit

This past month was centered around offensive and defensive strategies in relation to possession. How do we maintain possession and how do we prevent possession? We used a variety of community games that challenged the various unit objectives below and implemented the skills into strategy in order to work as a team. This is always a popular and perfect unit to begin with, as it sets the tone for 'teamwork' and skills needed to work as a team going further into our units. Additionally, students know and understand how to use space, how to decrease and increase space.

Unit Objectives: Spatial Awareness / Passing Skills / Cognitive and Community Skills / Fitness / Invasion concepts (Progression, possession, offense, defense.)

Athletics: What a Fantastic Fall Season! Volleyball built on their success from last year and more than doubled in wins. XC competed in several meets and we hosted our second ever annual "CCS Invitational," this year we hosted on the ground at Darden Towe. Boys Soccer had another phenomenal year and remained one of the tops teams in the area. It has been wonderful to see the many faces in attendance at our events, please continue to support us as we embark on the winter season and the beloved basketball teams. Go Archangels!!!

Art - Vanessa Devlin [v.devlin@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:v.devlin@cvillecatholic.org)  [@ccsarchangelsarts](https://www.instagram.com/ccsarchangelsarts)

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Here are some recent scenes from the studio! As we move deeper into fall and approach the season of Advent, Elementary students will be spending some time responding creatively to the music and lyrics of the songs they are singing in the Christmas concert. I look forward to sharing this work with all of you when we display it to accompany the concert on the evening of December 14th. I will be requesting volunteers to assist in hanging the work on Tuesday, December 13th, so please keep an eye on the Tuesday Teller for that opportunity.

**Kindergarten Key concepts - Artists use texture and shape in their art. Artists find ideas from exploring many different sources from the world around them.**





**First Grade Key Concepts - Artists observe and draw what they see. Artists can make changes.**



**Second Grade Key Concepts - Artists learn from each other through offering and receiving feedback. We can be inspired by artists in our community.**



**Third Grade Key Concepts - Artists can make decorative objects. Artists make objects for play. Artists can try new processes.**



**Fourth Grade Key Concepts - Artists can explore one idea (landscapes in this case) in many different ways.**



**Fifth Grade Key Concepts - Artists build things using a variety of materials and tools.**





**Middle School Key Concepts- Artists persist and persevere. Artists learn from each other in the studio. Artists can change their ideas and develop their craft.**



Music - Kate Wisbey [k.wisbey@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:k.wisbey@cvillecatholic.org)

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Happy November!

Special announcement: It is already almost time for the Christmas concert! As we prepare for the Christmas concert, please feel free to rehearse the songs at home, using the melody or the piano accompaniment from our google drive folder. I also have sent out a link with the lyrics and asked all our teachers to send the lyrics home to practice! If you would like to volunteer or help out as a parent during our Christmas concert, please email me at [k.wisbey@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:k.wisbey@cvillecatholic.org). Any help is appreciated! Please have your child wear their formal Christmas best and come ready for the concert at school at 6 pm. The concert will begin at 6:15 pm on December 14th. There will be an intermission, filled with wonderful artwork done by all our students based on the songs they are singing for the Christmas concert. Hope to see you all there!

It has been such a wonderful, fun fall season, celebrating the change of seasons within our music classes. In our K-2 classes, we have been working on creating non-pitched instruments to go with sound effects in stories, learning how to sing a melody and singing steps and skips. We created a scarecrow and created a fall story with an original melody. We have also begun to introduce playing the instruments in the classroom and have been learning what instruments they are and how to play them. Students have been learning about high and low pitches and the difference within dynamics from PP all the way to FF. Our students are starting to work on their songs for the Christmas concert.

In our 3-5 grades, we have been working on creating music out of storylines, creating melodies and learning the names of the Orff instruments. We have been adding how to keep a steady beat as well as pitch-matching for Do, Re, So, Mi, and finding the macro and micro beat within the music. We also have been talking about the difference between pitched and unpitched instruments and have been practicing these skills through fun, rhythmic fall songs and games. We have begun working on our songs for the Christmas concert and learning to memorize our songs.

In our middle school classes, the 6th and 7th graders have been learning piano, and have learned where middle C is, the C and G major scales and arpeggios, as well as worked on songs at their level in their books. Their music is also listed on the google

classroom, so if they would like to work on music at home- they can! We are currently working on a final project, learning a song or two in small groups to perform in December in our class. We just finished an introduction to music theory and ear training-listening to the time signatures to see if the song is in  $\frac{3}{4}$  or  $\frac{4}{4}$ . Students are also encouraged to perform these small groups at the Christmas concert.

Our middle school electives have been so busy, preparing together for the Veteran's day ceremony, as well as Christmas concert. We have done a combined rehearsal for our song "America the beautiful" for music improvisation and the choir and are starting to work on our songs for the Christmas concert.

Spanish - Jasmine Osteen [j.osteen@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:j.osteen@cvillecatholic.org)

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¡Hola a todos! This past month lots of fun projects have been happening in Spanish. Currently our third graders are working with adjectives and learning how to describe people. We made some bingo cards and they also practiced adjectives with making different drawings of people

In fourth grade students have been learning about family members. We are about to get started on a big family tree project where they will get to tell all about their family in Spanish!

In fifth grade students are designing dream houses to learn about the house and household items in Spanish. The houses they are making are super cool and I cannot wait to see the final products.

In sixth grade we have spent the past few classes working on using cognates and learning basic conversation phrases. The students prepared skits and performed them in class and also completed a reading entirely in Spanish!

This past week we spent some time learning about Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead. This holiday began with the blending of Aztec and Catholic traditions. Aztecs used to have two months to mourn the loss of loved ones and to celebrate their lives. One month was for younger people and the other month was for adults. When the Spaniards came to the Americas they blended their catholic holidays, All Saints Day and All Souls Day, with the Aztec celebrations to form what is now known as Dia de los Muertos. This is mostly celebrated in Mexico. However, it has begun to be celebrated in surrounding countries and there are similar festivities found all over the world. To learn more about this beautiful celebration click [here](#).