



Charlottesville Catholic School Specialist Newsletter

Important Upcoming Reminders

Date **Nov 4-15th**

Event **The Good News! Book Fair has begun!**
Please use code: **Archangels24**

Library - *Mrs. Anne Carbone* a.carbone@cvillecatholic.org

Happy November! Thank you to those who returned their overdue Library books! If you have not returned yours please do so ASAP. Thanks!

We had a lot of fun exploring Halloween books at the end of October. Our theme this week has been about voting and Presidents. We will begin reading Thanksgiving books very soon and discussing our many blessings. Wow, the year is flying by!

Fifth grade is now reading Realistic Fiction for their IRAs and Fourth grade is reading Non-Fiction. I am still reading The Wild Robot (SciFi) to the Third and Fourth graders. For the K-2nd grade classes, I read picture books during one class and from a chapter book during their second weekly class.

Book Fair News

Our Good News! Book Fair has begun! It runs November 4-November 15th! All book orders should arrive at your home in time for Christmas presents. To order please go to:

<https://goodnewsbookfair.com/virtual-fair>

****Please note: It is important to use the code Archangels24 in order for our school to get credit.**



P.E. - Ms. Madison Varney m.varney@cvillecatholic.org

During the month of October we had so much fun in PE playing fall and Halloween themed games!

K-2 has been working on throwing skills (underhand toss and over hand throw) with the focus on stepping in opposition. We have been working on sportsmanship and being a good teammate when we come to PE.

3-5 These grades have also worked on throwing and catching skills on top of invasion games that require teamwork. These kiddos have also been working on learning the importance of sportsmanship and how to overcome challenges within game scenarios.

6-8 These kiddos have been working on teamwork during exciting invasion games with emphasis on game strategy.

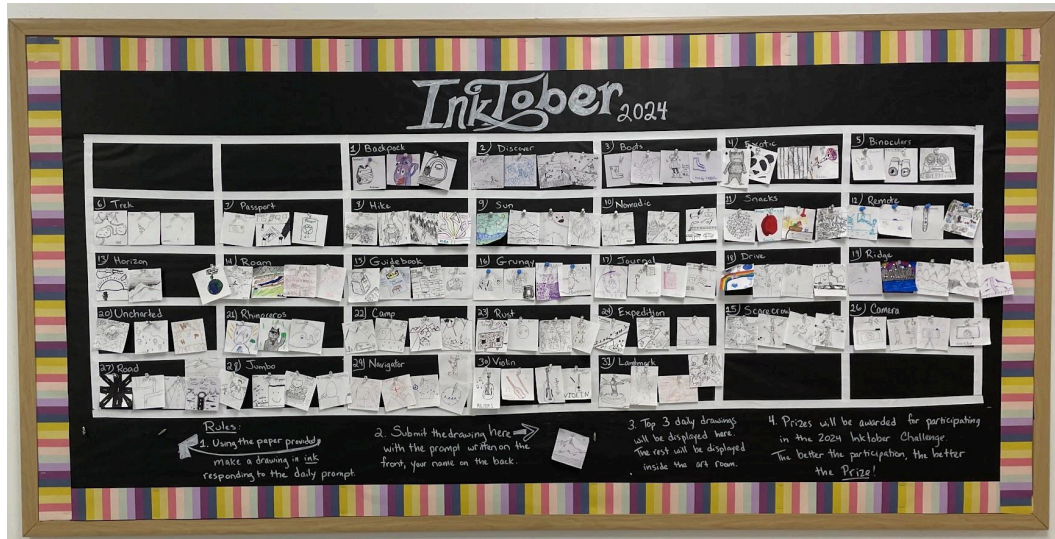
JK has been doing great in my middle school elective "PE Buddies." They seem to really enjoy PE and their middle school buddies. I am seeing incredible growth with my middle schoolers in leadership and social skills when working with the little ones! Overall JK is becoming acclimated in the PE environment which is exciting and so cute!

As we transition into November, each grade is starting a unit on either Kicking Skills or Soccer Skills!





Inktober, the month-long daily drawing challenge, was a great success. We had wonderful participation up and down the halls with some truly remarkable mini-masterpieces created.



The focus of the first quarter for all students was learning how to access and use studio materials to visualize an idea. JK is creating lots of process art, learning how to use tools and materials, and becoming confident artists. K-2 explored the possibilities using a framework centered around the elements of art (line, shape, color, texture, etc.) K/1 Students are able to choose to use paint, collage, drawing while grade 2 has added fiber arts and dry sculpture to that list. We have also touched on a variety of ways to make a print with some pop-up stations including Lego stamps, craft foam collagraph and foil prints.

3-5 students have been sewing, sculpting, painting, drawing, collaborating, and collaging with an emphasis on the 8 studio habits of mind. These include observation, engagement and persistence, reflection, developing craft, and more. With the second quarter upon us, students have identified personal interests and goals to carry with them through this grading period. One of their two art days each week will be dedicated to their personal goals, for example "Learning to use the sewing machine." or "improving my skills at drawing people". The second day will be devoted to goals that I set out for them.

3rd grade is going to be gaining skills surrounding proportions of the face, portraiture and realism v. abstraction. 4th grade will be experimenting with many different media on their way to creating a final depiction of a landscape. 5th grade is challenged with the creation of a surreal work of art - whether it use dreams, fantasy, juxtaposition, or automatism as an inspiration.

Some art will be coming home, as students, with my guidance, are deciding whether to share it with you immediately or store it in their portfolio until the end of the year. If art is stored in the portfolio, it is able to be presented at the school art show held in May. All art will then come home after the art show.

Students will begin uploading pictures of their art to the Artsonia online gallery this quarter. Artsonia is a wonderful resource for students to share their art near and far - so feel free to invite extended family and friends to be one of your child's fans. Another benefit of Artsonia is that it serves as a fundraiser for the Art program. 20% of any purchase made through Artsonia will return to the school to buy specialty materials the students love to use. I personally love the Christmas ornaments.

If you would like to schedule a conference with me, please use the following link:
<https://calendly.com/mrsdevlin-ccs/devlinconferences> I would be happy to meet with you!



Music- *Kate Wisbey* k.wisbey@cvillecatholic.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

IMPORTANT NOVEMBER UPDATE: Come to Albemarle High School at 5:30 pm on Monday, November 18th to see Charlottesville Catholic School represented in Charlottesville City Choir this year! The following students will be participating: Leyna Spencer, Ashlyn Blackburn, Lydia Barrett, Rachel Morris, Bristol Hux, Harper Swift, Julia Burns, Sara Rodriguez-Amaya and Kate Drummond! Thank you to those students for their hard work and dedication to singing! It will be quite a musical treat to see CCS represented so well!

CONGRATULATIONS: Congratulations to the following students who will be representing Charlottesville Catholic School in the District Choir on February 7th and 8th, 2025 at Culpepper County High School. Each one of these students auditioned with sight reading and a prepared song to get in and got a score of 145 or higher:

- Sara R.
- Meghan A.
- Bristol H.

To All Classes: If you would like a conference with me- feel free to sign up on this link!

<https://calendly.com/kate-wisbey-music-conferences/ptconference>

Feel free to check out our soundcloud to listen to what we are working on in classes!-

<https://on.soundcloud.com/gDUfg5W7JeRPWR9L9>

All Year: All Elementary students can have a student code access to sing and practice solfege at home!

Feel free to check out this resource: <https://www.musicplayonline.com>- Log in as a student and enter the code: k504379

JK: October: Halloween songs– 5 little pumpkins, skeleton who sings the ABCs, and more.. Come check out our spotify playlist and play some of the same songs at home!

K-2: -beginning to read solfege hand-signs Halloween movement games– ghost of tom, Pass the pumpkin, mass song review, and beginning to learn Christmas songs!

3-5: -sight reading solfege, mass song review and learning 2-part songs for the Christmas concert!



4th and 5th grade took a field trip to see the Charlottesville Symphony Orchestra at UVA! Thank you to the volunteers for driving!

5th: Colonial Music day coming soon! Next Wednesday, we will be doing a colonial dance in costume for Colonial day!

Middle School:

Our middle schoolers started off the year with a fun winter music project which may be sent out to middle school parents, teachers and staff at the end of the semester. Students created their own songs in this project and presented it to the class.

We are now getting into our Music Units!

As we start these units, here is a resource to use at home if you would like Christmas music, or more resources on these units:

CCS MUSIC INSTRUMENT RESOURCES

6th grade: Choir/Intro to orff instruments

- Learning: solfege, sight reading skills and learning how to read music
- Anatomy of the voice
- Reading 2 part vocal scores

7th grade: Digital Music/Piano!

- How to use Cap cut and incorporate music from garageband/soundtrap
- How to use instruments to create sound effects
- Scales/Arpeggios/Warm-ups for piano

Since all students are on different levels on piano, students have their own keyboard and are navigating their own leveled music, depending on their background on the instrument. We will play a song together to end the semester.

8th grade: Orff band ensemble

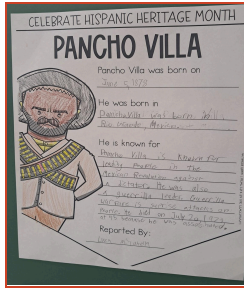
- C and G Pentatonic Scales- what is it? What makes up a pentatonic scale?
- How to read music
- How to arrange your favorite songs on instruments–using instruments students use at home as well (we have extra instruments)-- including Sweet Home, Alabama!



Spanish- Ms. Denise DeMaio d.demaio@cvillecatholic.org

This month the students have learned a lot about Hispanic culture, important figures that have left a mark on society. This was done in order to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. They were also able to enjoy watching the movie Vivo, which is a Hispanic movie that talks about music, self-esteem, and the grieving process. It shows the Latino culture in both Cuba and Florida. The students did activities related to the movie such as word searches, answering questions, and singing songs. They also had the opportunity to learn about the Day of the Dead and help prepare the decorations for the altar that will be placed in the chapel from November 2-8. Everyone is welcome to come and look at it. They learned vocabulary related to these topics. The next few weeks they will review the colors and parts of the house. They learned vocabulary related to these topics. The next few weeks they will review the colors and parts of the house. Know the spaces in the house and name them. Identify different elements of the different spaces in the house. Know and understand the vocabulary related to the house. Self-evaluate the result of the activity. La sala=the living room, la recámara=the bedroom, la Cocina=the kitchen, el comedor=The dining room.





S.E.L. - *Ms. Marie Decker* m.decker@cvillecatholic.org

Happy November! Our elementary classes have continued their work learning various social-emotional skills during classroom lessons.

JK - 1: Our youngest students have been exploring the way our body “talks to us” and are in the introduction phase of learning various strategies that can be used when uncomfortable emotions arise.

2: Second graders have begun their unit on conflict resolution, starting with lessons related to classifying the size of a problem. Over the course of the next several lessons, second graders will explore and practice problem solving strategies that can be used to resolve various age-level conflicts.

3: Third grade has continued their extended unit related to self-control. This unit will transition into targeting skills related to positive communication with peers and teachers over the course of the month.

4: Fourth grade has engaged in several collaborative projects lately, which has led to accompanying SEL lessons related to problem-solving and teamwork skills. Fourth grade has done explicit practice with “compromise” as a conflict resolution strategy and will be exploring more strategies and topics related to conflict resolution.

5: Fifth graders are expanding their emotional vocabulary and learning to scale their emotional states, which is a key component of effective emotional regulation. As a grade level, our fifth grade students were able to independently generate 19 different words that could be used to describe the emotional state of “scared.” Next, they will be challenged with analyzing the intensity of these 19 words and building a personalized visual for themselves.

Middle School: While middle school is not receiving a regular rotation of SEL lessons from me during this initial year of CCS’ SEL program, I am available to students for various short-term or long-term personal/social challenges that may arise.

If you would like to have a conference with me, either to discuss ongoing supports for your child or to ask questions related to your child’s social-emotional development, please feel free to sign up at this link: <https://calendly.com/m-decker-cvillecatholic/parent-teacher-conference>