



**Charlottesville
Catholic School**
Christ Community Scholars

Charlottesville Catholic School

Friday Newsletter

First Grade

12.13.24

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Calendar/Important Dates:

- **Thursday, December 19** - JK-2 Christmas Concert - more information below
- **Friday, December 20** - Polar Express Christmas Party, 11:30am Dismissal

School Announcements:

- **Christmas Break is a great time to make sure that uniform pieces fit students properly (especially lengths for pants, skirts, and jumpers), and for boys to get haircuts.**
- There are 2 separate Christmas concerts for students this year. **The 3rd-5th Grade concert is on Wednesday, December 18, and the JK-2nd Grade concert is on Thursday, December 19.** Both concerts start at 6:15PM.

Important concert night information:

- **Students should arrive at their classrooms between 5:40 PM and 5:55 PM.** When they arrive, they are to go directly to their classrooms. Parents should go directly to the gym upon arrival.
 - At the end of both concerts, K-5 students will return to their homerooms. **Parents must sign their children out with their teachers.**
 - JK students will be dismissed after they sing.
 - Students should wear their "Christmas best."
- If you are able to help Ms. Wisbey set up or clean up from the concerts, please sign up here: [Christmas Concert Help](#)
 - From the PTO: We will celebrate our incredible CCS faculty and staff by hosting a Christmas luncheon on December 18. We are seeking donations of food items and

volunteers to monitor recess. Please [sign up here](#) if you are able to assist. Thank you for helping to make this a special event!

Food donations should be dropped off during the morning carline on 12/18 (there will be a cart for collections at both carlines).

Teacher's Messages/Announcements:

- On Friday, December 20, first grade will be joining second grade to celebrate Christmas with a Polar Express-themed party! Students are invited to wear their pajamas and bring a pillow and blanket. We will watch the movie and enjoy some treats! Here is the link to sign up for items to contribute: [Charlottesville Catholic School: Polar Express Party](#)
 - Note: Students must wear their school shoes. Please be mindful when dressing students in pajamas that they should be loose fitting and provide enough covering so that students can still go outside comfortably for lunch and recess.

Social Studies

This week we continued learning about different winter holidays around the world. We visited Israel for Hanukkah, Africa for Kwanzaa and India for Diwali. Next week we will learn about Christmas in the USA and the Lunar New Year.

Math

This week we continued learning about subtraction. We learned about how to subtract the same number and zero. We also learned about how to solve word problems within 20 using the CUBES strategy. Next week we will finish up our unit on subtraction.

Language Arts/Reading/Writing

Reading

This week we analyzed and compared nonfiction and narrative nonfiction texts. We discussed the "story-like" elements that exist within a narrative and the difference between showing versus explaining. We also discussed how both text and illustrations can convey information to the reader. With a focus on hibernation, the book *Over and Under the Snow* as well as other nonfiction readers were used to practice reading and reviewing relevant nonfiction text and graphic features on this subject matter. Next week we will read *The Animals Santa* and will practice analyzing illustrations to discover important details from the story.

Writing/ Grammar

This week we highlighted the pronouns I, me, and my and practiced using these words in our writing. We also wrote about animals from our nonfiction texts, describing their unique characteristics. Additionally, after analyzing various pictures and illustrations, we wrote about what we thought the images were trying to convey. Next week will continue with these writing skills as well as verb tenses.

Theology

This week, we continued decorating our Jesse Tree as we read the stories of Moses, Samuel, Jesse, David, and Solomon. We "lit" the second candle on our advent wreaths and talked about the theme of peace during this second week. Finally, we learned about our December virtue of the month, accepting, and how St. Martin de Porres exemplifies this virtue by treating every person he came into contact with as a child of God, worthy of respect and kindness.

Science

We focused on Social Studies this week.

Other Information

Snack (8:45/9:00)/ Lunch (11:30)

Please include a snack with your child's lunch everyday along with a filled spill proof water bottle. Please be mindful of the food that you are packing. Our first grade classrooms are nut free, so double check labels. Nuts are okay to bring into the cafeteria for lunch time this year!

Specials Schedule

Monday - Library & Music Tuesday - Library & Mass Wednesday - P.E.

Thursday- Art Friday - Music

Dress Uniform

Boys - Blue pants, white dress shirt, CCS tie/bowtie, black school shoes, and blue or black socks
NO white.

Girls- Plaid jumper, solid dark shorts underneath, white peter pan collared shirt, navy knee socks NO white or black knee socks, and black school shoes.

Homework (M-TH)

Be on the lookout for your child's homework sheet in next week's Monday binder.

Please, no more than 25 minutes a night. Reading is the MOST important homework and should be done EVERY night!