



**Charlottesville  
Catholic School**  
*Christ Community Scholars*

# Charlottesville Catholic School

## Friday Newsletter

### Junior Kindergarten December 6, 2024

#### **Teacher's Message/Announcements**

#### **Calendar/Important Dates**

- December 19: JK-2 Christmas Concert
- December 20: 11:30 dismissal
- December 23-Jan 3: Christmas break

#### **Teacher email addresses**

Virginia Wawner: [v.wawner@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:v.wawner@cvillecatholic.org)

Christine Shank: [c.shank@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:c.shank@cvillecatholic.org)

#### **Important School Announcements**

- 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 5:45PM and 5:55PM.** 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](#)
- **We will have Mass on Monday, December 9 for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.** There is no Mass on Tuesday, December 10—students do not need to be in formal dress uniforms that

day. We will have a prayer service for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Thursday, December 12 at 8:15AM.

- Every Advent and Lent, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered for CCS students, as well as Adoration, which is a special quiet time of reflection spent in front of the Blessed Sacrament. We're in need of some parent support to usher students from the confessionals (library/conference room) to the chapel. Especially during the student lunch time frame of 11:30-1, we need people present in the chapel. Please consider helping out in this special way by selecting slot(s) from [this sign up sheet](#).
- Join us on Tuesday, December 10 from 5:00 to 8:00pm for CCS Night at Chick-fil-a @ Barracks Rd! Just tell the cashier (in restaurant or drive thru) that you're with CCS Spirit Night and 15% of your net food purchase will be donated back to school. Mobile Orders count too – use code CCSPTO.
- We are excited to be hosting Coffee & Muffins at St. Thomas Aquinas 4 weekends this year (October 27, December 15, January 26, and April 6). In order to do this, we will need volunteers to both bake muffins and staff the table each of the Sundays (Middle School students can do either one, and may count the time for church or community service). Muffins will need to be delivered to school no later than 8:15AM on preceding Friday (for December 15, muffins will be due by Friday, December 13). If you would like to help, please [sign up here](#)—any CCS parent can volunteer to staff the CCS.
- 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).*

## Math

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Ms. Wawner's class explored positional words this week. We had a fun time making Pete the Cat follow directions and following directions as a class. We also continue to learn how to write our numbers. This week we practiced the number 5 with a special rhyme. Ms. Shank's class started our unit on graphing. We graphed our eye color, the number of letters in our name, and what pet was our favorite. We will continue graphing.

## Language Arts/Reading/Writing

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Ms. Wawner's class learned about the letter Gg, both the hard and soft sound. We read The Billy Goats Gruff and The Gingerbread Man and made our own gingerbread decorations, complete with a gingerbread town. We also learned the sight word "a" and read our book "I See a Farm." Ms. Shank's class read a lot of books written by Jan Brett. We read "The Mitten" and the students created a retelling bag of the story. We will continue to read more Jan Brett books. Next week our letter will be J. We finished our study of syllables and the students were assessed. These will come home in their folder on Friday. Next week we will learn about story

elements (character, setting, problem, and solution). when we read a Jan Brett book called "Cozy",

## Theology/SEL

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Ms. Wawner's class celebrated the start of Advent this week by talking about the advent wreath and candles and what it means to wait and prepare. We created ornaments for our Jesse tree and put one ornament on the tree each day, learning the story behind it as we go. We also learned about Saint Nicholas and created shoes for Saint Nick. Ms. Shank's class learned about the story of Daniel and the lions. We talked about how important prayer is and how courageous Daniel was. We got our "suitcases" ready for a trip around the world to see how other cultures and countries celebrate Christmas. We took a trip to Sweden and learned about St. Lucia and her crown of candles. That the light in the darkness is the birth of Jesus. We made our own crown of candles. We will be traveling to Hawaii, Mexico, France, England, Brazil, and China. Each time the students go to a country we will put stickers on their suitcase. We went to Italy as well this week. The students made "shoes" to put out in the hall for St. Nicholas to fill with treats. While the students were resting, the middle school students filled them to take home. They will be in their backpack. We will be making crafts to go with each country and their tradition.

## Science/Social Studies

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Ms. Wawner's class started learning about how animals do three main things in winter: hibernate, migrate, or adapt. We learned movements to go along with each one so students can remember. We focused on adaptation this week and learned which animals adapt and how. We took a nature walk to see if we could spot any animals who have adapted for the cold temperatures, such as cardinals, squirrels, etc. We talked about how humans are animals that adapt and listed all the ways we adapt to live in the cold winter. Next week, we will learn about hibernation. Ms. Shank's class talked about another adaptation that helps animals survive, migration. We even learned that whales migrate. Next week we will learn about reindeer migration. We will also learn about physical adaptations when we learn about the polar bear and how its blubber protects it from the cold. The students will complete an experiment to explore this. Brr!