



**Charlottesville
Catholic School**
Christ Community Scholars

Charlottesville Catholic School

Friday Newsletter

2nd Grade

12/08/2023

Teacher's Message/Announcements

- Hawks...get your jolly on! Next Friday, December 15, the Hawks will “rock around the Christmas tree” at our class Christmas celebration! If you'd like to join us or treat these little elves to some scrumptious snacks, [click here](#).
- Keep Calm, and Winter On! Make sure your Hawk is winter-ready while frolicking on the CCS turf, blacktop, and field! CCS follows the following guidelines regarding winter weather and coats:
 - Wind-chill below 25°F - Brr! Too cold! Students stay inside for recess
 - Wind-chill in the 30s - Students must wear a coat (not a sweatshirt); covered heads are encouraged (hat or hood)).
 - Wind-chill in the 40s - Students must wear a hoodie, sweater, or fleece over their uniform
 - **Students who do not have the proper outerwear will sit in the front office for recess.**
- Friday, December 15 is our Tacky Christmas Sweater Day at CCS! Students will be allowed to wear appropriate tacky Christmas sweaters to school that day.
 - Students in K-5 may wear either their school uniform jumpers or pants, or CCS sweatpants.
 - Middle School students may wear school uniform skirts or pants, blue jeans, or CCS sweatpants.
 - All students must wear their uniform shoes.
 - Any students not participating must wear their normal uniform.
- Choo Choo!! On December 18, the Hawks will hop aboard the Polar Express! While wearing jammies, cuddling a blanket, sampling cookies, and sipping hot cocoa, your little darling will be treated to a magical afternoon, complete with conductors, elves, and servers! If you'd like to contribute to the magic, check out this [sign up sheet](#) for all of the possibilities!

- The amazing 1st and 2nd grade room moms are collecting donations to purchase decorations. If you are interested in contributing a few dollars, please Venmo Mary Ellen Quinn @Meltag1763 (last 4 digits of cell are 5040). Please indicate in the Venmo description that this is for the 1&2 grade Christmas party (to prevent tax collection).
- Do you hear what I hear?! The Hawks will sing their hearts out at the annual JK-2 Christmas Concert on Wednesday, December 13 at 6:15PM. Your fashionista can show off his/her flair while wearing "Christmas Best." ***Please drop your Hawk off in our classroom between 5:40 and 5:55. If your Hawk arrives at school prior to 5:40, he/she should remain in your care.***
- Santa Hawk is coming to town!!! Your sweet shopper had a ball at the St. Nick Shop picking out the perfect gift for each fabulous family member on his/her list! The gift of giving is filling the Hawk hearts with joy!
- Thank you so much for the many generous donations of materials and time this month! I am so blessed to partner with your families! #WhoCouldAskForAnythingMore

Calendar/Important Dates

12/12 - 3rd-5th Grade Christmas Concert - arrive at school at 5:45 pm

12/13 - JK-2 Christmas Concert - arrive at school at 5:45 pm

12/15 - Tacky Sweater Day

12/18 - Polar Express Classroom Event, 12:30-3:00

12/19 - Christmas Caroling Service Field Trip, 12:30-3:00

1/9 - 2nd Grade Leads Mass, 8:15 am

1/10- Map Testing

1/17 - Science Day - DATE CHANGE!

2/23 - Field Trip to Amazement Square, 8:15 am-3:00 pm

3/13- Roald Dahl Day (volunteer timing TBD)

4/24 - Trashion Show, 2:15-2:45 pm (CCS Gym)

5/3 - Communion Retreat

Teacher email addresses

l.devane@cvillecatholic.org (Theology)

h.robinson@cvillecatholic.org

Social Studies/Science

Innovate and invent! This week, the Hawks became great inventors. After learning about cool new materials like underground magnets and glass that can be switched from opaque to transparent, these imaginative inventors had the opportunity to brainstorm and advertise inventions themselves. The only catch? Their invention had to somehow incorporate stretchy, bouncy glass. Check out their amazing ideas on the walls of CCS!

Part of being a great inventor is being willing to fail! In our second lesson, the Hawks worked in teams to save "Bobby" (aka a bobby pin!) from a crash landing by inventing a paper device to slow the fall. They worked like inventors, learning from their failures!

Rainy days call for imagination! The Hawks "took" a boat trip that resulted in being stranded on a deserted island! Eek! Realizing the tropical sun would take a toll on their sweet skin, these impressive innovators took matters into their own hands by designing and building a hat that offered sun protection, taking into account the different properties of materials used for clothing, such as texture, flexibility, and absorbency.

Our final lesson will task the Hawks with helping Santa overcome a sleigh malfunction! I can't wait to see all of their amazing ideas come to life next week!

This unit has brought out the best in our stellar scientists, who have been busy hypothesizing, problem solving, questioning, designing (and re-designing!), testing (and re-testing!), and building a growth mindset. One of our favorite quotes is from Thomas Edison. When asked by a reporter how it felt to fail so many times, Edison answered, "I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work." So true!

Math

Strategies, strategies, and more strategies! The Hawks are armed with a full toolkit (base-10 blocks, decomposing one or both addends, 100s charts, number lines, making friendly numbers, and the "tried and true" algorithm) for the Unit 5 Test on Tuesday, December 12. A practice test will be sent home on Monday, December 11. Students will be able to solve the problems using the strategy/strategies with which they are most comfortable.

Flashcards, worksheets, and games...oh my!! With so many ways to practice addition and subtraction facts, you're sure to find a win! Keep up the good work!

Is your little snowman melting for math? Check out SplashLearn.com! The Hawks have free home access for assigned work. Hip, hip, hooray!

Language Arts/Reading/Writing

Ready, set, read! The Hawks are finishing up some fabulous fiction before the winter break. Each week, these ravenous readers gobble up good books while discussing character traits, making predictions, and reading like actors.

Our reading tummies are rumbling! To support your sweet readers with a balanced literacy diet, each week the Hawks review sight words, play decoding games with both real and nonsense words, and enhance fluency with repeated readings. It's safe to say that reading is now in their DNA!

Stupendous spellers! Check your child's folder for graded spelling tests today and give him/her a happy high-five for a job well done!

Theology

O Come, O Come Emmanuel! This week was all about this beautiful season of Advent. In our Morning Meeting, we continued to learn about our Jesse Tree scripture stories and add ornaments to our tree. On Monday, your little faithful came up with daily goals to practice during this season of Advent to help prepare his/her heart for Jesus at Christmas. On Wednesday, the Hawks learned about different Advent symbols and their meanings, including candles, the Advent wreath, and evergreen branches while recording the information and creating a beautiful flipbook! They concluded the week with a celebration of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception as a school community on Friday.

Next week is all about our upcoming Mass on January 9! Student volunteers will be announced and necessary readings sent home to practice; we will also practice at school before and after the Christmas Break. If you can, please consider praying with us at Mass on Tuesday, January 9 at 8:15am!

We had a special guest, Mrs. Pearring, join us at chapel this week. She walked us through the Sacrament of Reconciliation and gave us great hand signals to remember the different parts: think (examination of conscience), say (tell the priest your sins), listen (to the priest's advice), ask for forgiveness (Act of Contrition), absolution, and penance. Ask your Hawk to show the hand signals we used to remember it all!! During class time, we also practiced going to confession using "sins" we picked out of a bag.