



Charlottesville Catholic School

Friday Newsletter

Dec 9, 2022

2nd Grade

Dear Rainbow Cheetah and Silly Sloth families,

Thank you so much for your generous donations this month! From shoes to helmets, from donut sales to a snack drive for the food insecure, our wonderful school community is making a difference through service! What a beautiful lesson each of these service opportunities is teaching the Sloths and Cheetahs.

Cheetahs and Sloths...get your jolly on! All Aboard! Next week, we'll take our adorable adventurers on a trip around the world (including the North Pole!) to learn how Christmas and other holidays are celebrated. Our mode of transportation? Why, the Polar Express, of course! We'll be serving hot cocoa and school safe sweet treats. All aboard!

Remember that next week is our first 2nd Grade lead Mass for the CCS community. Please consider joining us in this special time of prayer at 8:15 on Thursday, December 15th.

God bless,

Mrs. Pearring & Mrs. Robinson

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Calendar

- 12/12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer Service, 8:15am
- 12/14 - Christmas Concert, 6:15 pm (students arrive by 5:45) *(see more info below)*
- 12/15 - 2nd Grade Leads Mass
- 12/15 - Polar Express
- 12/16 - 2nd Grade Christmas Celebration
- 12/16 - 11:30 Dismissal - No Aftercare
- 12/19-12/30 - Christmas Break

Announcements

- Fa La La La! We're excited to share Christmas joy through music and art! Here are some important reminders:
 - Dress your cutie in his/her "Christmas Best."
 - Arrive by 5:45 pm and drop your student(s) off in the classroom
 - Following classroom dropoff, parents can head straight to the gym for the concert
 - Upon conclusion of the concert, meet your child(ren) in the classroom for sign out - ***all children must be signed out before leaving the concert***
 - Explore the gorgeous concert-song-inspired artwork around the school before or after the concert. If you're exploring the artwork after the concert, please first sign out your child(ren)

- No spelling homework or test next week (12/12-12/16)

- Head, shoulders, knees, and toes...they ALL get cold this time of year! Please send your child to school with **LABELED OUTERWEAR**. If you're missing items, check out the CCS Lost & Found (located in the stairwell near the cafeteria), as well as the Silly Sloth Classroom Lost & Found (located in a box under the ActivPanel)

- Reminder: To add to Ms. Wisbey's special talent show, please use the below links. Children are welcome to submit short (less than 1 min.) videos of even non-music related talents to showcase in class.
 - Mrs. Pearring's class, add your short videos to [THIS FOLDER](#)
 - Mrs. Robinson's class, add your short videos to [THIS FOLDER](#)

Math

This week your mathematicians finished up their unit on telling time! They identified the difference between A.M. and P.M. and reviewed like champs before taking their test on Friday.

Next week, we will do some fun Christmas themed math practice. When we return from break, we will jump start into our new unit on two-digit addition. Math fact fluency is key! Please take time during the holiday to continue to review addition and subtraction facts so that your little cutie is ready to go!

If your child is like us and is crazy about math, check out SplashLearn.com! Your child may access the site for free to complete work that we assign. Hooray!

Literacy

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

Our reading tummies are rumbling! To support our readers with a balanced literacy diet, each week the Sloths and Cheetahs review sight words, play decoding games with both real and nonsense words, and enhance reading 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! Reminder: NO SPELLING HOMEWORK OR TEST NEXT WEEK

Staffing shortage at the North Pole? Much to the excitement of the Cheetahs and Sloths, it turns out help is needed EVERYWHERE! Our sweet students filled out elf job applications, completed graphic organizers, and went through the writing process to send persuasive letters, complete with topic and closing sentences, to the jolly man himself! The Sloths and Cheetahs included special skills and attributes in their letters, highlighting how they are the perfect candidate for this epic employment opportunity. After receiving the letters, Santa will respond to each applicant!

Religion

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 their hearts for Jesus at Christmas. On Wednesday, we 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! Finally, after we celebrated the Solemnity of the Immaculate

Conception as a school community on Thursday, Friday we dove deeper into the story of the Annunciation, where Gabriel appeared to Mary to tell her that she would be the Mother of our Lord! To remember Mary's courageous "yes," students created beautiful stained glass windows of the scene.

Next week is all about our upcoming Mass! Student volunteers were distributed any necessary readings this week to practice at home and we will be practicing as a grade in the chapel this Tuesday and Wednesday. If you can, please consider coming and praying with us for our first Mass this coming Thursday at 8:15am!

Science/Social Studies

On Friday, December 9, the Cheetahs and Sloths were treated to an in-school field trip! The Jamestown Settlement and American Revolution Museum at Yorktown joined our curious cuties to extend the learning about Native Americans we began in October. Over the course of our hour-long event, the Sloths and Cheetahs investigated the lives and society of the Powhatan Indians. How fancy that they also had the chance to use inquiry methods and handle reproduction artifacts! Our social scientists also explored the Powhatan Indian culture, including the roles of different members of its society, government structures, and how the Powhatan Indians used natural resources to produce tools, clothing, houses and food. What a perfect prequel to our upcoming study of Economics in February!

Innovate and invent! This week, the Sloths and Cheetahs learned how to become a great inventor. After learning about cool new materials like underground magnets and glass that can be switched from opaque to transparent, our 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 Cheetahs and Sloths 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 Cheetahs and Sloths "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, our 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 activity in this unit was the Elf Drop! After decorating a hard boiled egg to look like a mischievous elf (it's amazing how much more invested the kiddos are when the egg is personable!), the Sloths and Cheetahs teamed up in the STEM Lab to design a contraption to protect their elf from potential Christmas mishaps. This festive and fun STEM challenge was a hit! Thank you to the Sloth and Cheetah families for so generously donating materials and time to our classrooms!

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!