



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

# Charlottesville Catholic School

## Friday Newsletter

### Junior Kindergarten

#### Important Dates

**February 17 - School Closed - Parent-Teacher conferences**

**February 20 - School Closed - Presidents Day**

**February 22 - Lent begins**

#### Math

Ms. Wawner's class wrapped up their unit on positional words by playing the game, "Where's the Mustache?" The group started learning about ordinal numbers this week and will continue practicing them next week, while also reviewing concepts we have learned this year. Ms. Shank's class continues our unit on positional words. We are also working on increasing our number sense. The students have been "subitizing" or quickly reading a set of objects and telling the number. We have used ten frames and ingroups with objects in random order. They are learning to "count on" and other activities to increase their number sense.

#### Language Arts/Reading/Writing

Ms. Wawner's class had great fun learning about syllables this week. We practiced finding the number of syllables in words using 5 different methods: jaw drop, robot speak, clapping, humming, and jumping. We learned about the letter H this week and read many books on hibernation, a concept we are studying during our Animals in Winter unit in Science. We will spend next week reviewing the letters and sounds we have learned thus far, as well as vowels, syllables, and our sight words. Ms. Shank's class worked on the letter "F". We read some nonfiction and fiction books about the rainforest. We read a book by the Author Jan Brett called "The Umbrella". We did an author study of her earlier in the year with other books she has written such as "The Mitten" and the "Hat". We compared "The Umbrella" to "The Mitten" and talked about some things that were similar and different such as her plot and illustration style. Next week we are going to read a story called "The Great Kapok Tree" and talk about ecology.

#### Religious Education

Ms. Wawner's class is learning about Saint Valentine as a background to Valentine's Day next week. We will begin learning about the season of Lent. Ms. Shank's class started our

unit on Moses by reading about how Moses was saved by the Pharaoh's Princess. We also read about the burning bush and how if we listen we can hear God talk to us. The students completed a craft of the burning bush. Next week we'll be learning about the Exodus from Egypt and the parting of the red sea. We also compared Moses to our other heroes from the Bible we have studied, (David, Noah, Daniel, and Joseph) and talked about how they all had in common the fact that they trusted in God no matter what. Then on to a unit on Lent.

## Science/Social Studies

Ms. Wawner's class started an "Animals in Winter" unit this week. Knowing that animals need food, water, air, and shelter to survive, we learned how animals behave during winter when food can be scarce and it's cold. We focused on hibernation this week and will learn about migration and adaptation in the coming week.

Ms. Shank's class began our month-long unit about the rainforest. The students entered the classroom with a canopy of leaves in the doorway on Monday and the sounds of a rainforest. Courtesy of Mr. Bruscia, our middle school science teacher, the students were able to look at some snake skins and investigate his collection of insects. We learned about the blue morpho butterfly and made our own. We are still doing some experiments on matter. Ask your student how we got raisins to dance. Next week we'll be learning about ecology. The students will create a human food chain/web on the blacktop. We are excited to have the 6th graders come to our class on Thursday to help us with our research reports on animals. Each student will be given an animal to research and then make a craft of their animal. Our faith buddies will be helping us with our crafts. We will also be building the layers of the rainforest in our classroom and placing our animal crafts in the correct level of the forest.

## Other **Valentines Day**

### **Conferences**

Friday, February 17, school is closed for parent/teacher conferences. This conference day is not meant to be conferences for every child. Teachers will be reaching out to you directly if they would like to hold a conference. If you would like to meet with your child's teacher to discuss their progress, please feel free to reach out to them. Monday, February 20, school will be closed in observance of Presidents Day.

### **Winter Gear - Message from the Administration**

Please make sure that your child's uniforms fit properly and guidelines regarding hair, makeup, and jewelry are being followed. Additionally, it is imperative that your child comes to school in proper outerwear for recess. Coats, hats, and gloves are required for the winter months. We truly appreciate your support.

Cuando regresemos de las vacaciones de Navidad, por favor asegúrese de que el uniforme de su hijo le quede bien y que siga las reglas con respecto al cabello, el maquillaje y las joyas. Por ejemplo, para los niños, el cabello no debe extenderse sobre las orejas o debajo del cuello de la camisa. Tampoco debe tocar las cejas. Para niñas, los lazos para el cabello deben ser conservadores. También no se permite esmalte ni aretas que cuelgan.

Adicionalmente, es imperativo que su hijo venga a la escuela con abrigo adecuado para el recreo. Se requieren abrigos, gorros y guantes para los meses de invierno. Nosotros verdaderamente apreciamos tu apoyo. Como siempre, si tiene alguna pregunta acerca del uniforme, por favor comuníquese con la Srta. Goodwin.

**Ash Wednesday**

*Calling all palms! Our chaplain, Fr. David, is collecting previously used Palm Sunday branches to create our ashes for our upcoming Ash Wednesday Mass. Please send in any palms you may have on Monday, February 13th so that Father may take them to burn for the following week's liturgy.*

**Snack/Lunch**

Please make sure your child has enough snack and lunch to last them for the 8-hour school day. The students are growing and some are eating most of their lunch during snack and have little to eat at lunch. A little extra will help.