



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

# Charlottesville Catholic School

## Friday Newsletter

### Middle School

- It is imperative that your child comes to school in proper outerwear for recess. Coats, hats, and gloves are required for the winter months.
- 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.

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.

USTEP (University Student Taught Engineering Program) is a wonderful STEM opportunity and has a deadline registration of Saturday, February 11th at 5 PM. They still have plenty of spots open, so please encourage your 6th - 8th graders to apply for this fantastic opportunity. USTEP is a fun-filled educational outreach program run by the Society of Women Engineers at UVA to serve middle school students throughout Virginia. Students will be able to have a one-of-a-kind experience taking classes taught by passionate UVA Engineering students. USTEP will be held in person on Sunday, February 26th at the UVA campus in Charlottesville, VA. More information about the event and the link to the application can all be found on their [website](#). Additionally, we have hyperlinked the [registration link](#), [an informational sheet](#), and a [detailed course catalog](#).

Please contact the following people if you have any questions or concerns:

[Alysha Akhtar](#) & [Katie Chandler](#) (SWE at UVA - USTEP Co-Chairs)

#### **Battle of the Books**

Does your child love to read and compete? St. Edward-Epiphany will be hosting a Battle of the Books this spring. They are hoping to have it on Friday, April 28. We are hoping to have a team for grades 3-5 and a team for grades 6-8. Each team will consist of four to six students.

Students would take responsibility for reading books from a [list](#) and then compete in a Family Feud-style competition with students from other schools. If your child would like to compete, please reach out to Mrs. DeVane at [l.devane@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:l.devane@cvillecatholic.org). She will organize which books each student will read and coordinate for the competition day.

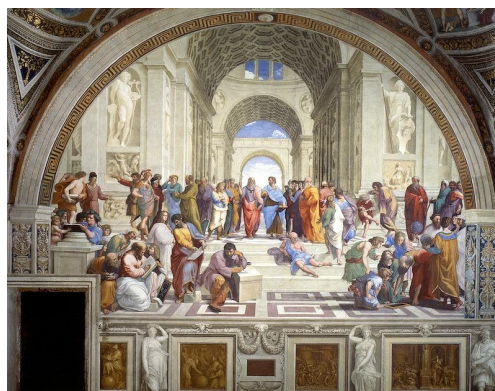
If you are interested/able, here is the sign-up genius, for a service opportunity, which involves baking for First Presbyterian's Soup Kitchen:

[Sign-up for First Presbyterian](#)

## Social Studies - [r.hendrick@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:r.hendrick@cvillecatholic.org)

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6th: This week the 6th graders learned about the power of political cartoons in relation to the Gilded Age. Next week they will wrap up their Gilded Age Unit discussing the rise of organized labor movements.



7th: This week the 7th graders learned the Red Scare and the Korean War. Next week they will explore the 1950s Civil Rights Movement.

8th: This week the 8th graders learned about sub-Saharan African Civilizations. Next week they will begin exploring the Renaissance. As part of this unit they will begin working on a major research project on the Renaissance. More information will be going home on the assignment next week.

## Mathematics - [j.garland@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:j.garland@cvillecatholic.org) & [j.reid@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:j.reid@cvillecatholic.org)

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Math 6 (Garland): We finished out this past week quizzing on translating and evaluating expressions. This coming week, we will get into combining like terms and the Distributive property as a means to simplify expressions.

Pre-Algebra (Garland): This past week, we started analyzing Geometric transformations on the coordinate plane. I introduced reflections by using the villain from the Superman comics, Bizarro. NextNext week, we will explore translations, rotations, and dilations.



Geometry (Garland): I used a hobby of mine, shark tooth collecting, to introduce similar figures and ratios. Next week we will solve for missing sides/angles of similar figures and start to prove triangles similar by the Theorems, SSS~, SAS~, and AA~.



Math 7 (Reid): This past week we continued working with algebraic expressions by simplifying them using the distributive property and combining like terms. On Friday of this week, the kids got a test review on Algebraic Expressions and it is due on Monday, February 13th. The kids will have their 2nd test of the 3rd Quarter on Algebraic Expressions either on Wednesday (2/15) or Thursday (2/16) whichever is the block day for their class. Our next unit will start with properties of real numbers that will allow us to start solving equations in 1 variable. Thank you to those of you who donated pencils, pens and highlighters! The kids and I really really appreciate it...thank you soooooo much for your kindness and generosity :)

Algebra (Reid): This past week we wrapped up our unit on Writing Equations of Lines and we tested on Thursday the 9th. Our next unit will be on solving Systems of Linear Equations and Inequalities. Next week, the kids will get more direction on their Mountain Range Project. Thank you to those of you who donated pencils, pens and highlighters! The kids and I really really appreciate it...thank you soooooo much for your kindness and generosity :)

## Composition, Literature, and Language

Arts—[e.kerrigan@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:e.kerrigan@cvillecatholic.org) & [l.lowdon@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:l.lowdon@cvillecatholic.org)

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6th Grade Composition (Kerrigan): In class this week, students took a vocabulary test on Friday, and they have been studying verb forms. Next week, we will continue our study of verbs with transitive and intransitive verbs, wrapping in our prior learning of direct objects.

6th Grade Literature (Kerrigan): *Maniac Magee* continues to get rave reviews from our class! We will be finishing the novel this next week, and the students have a Maniac Magee project due Feb. 21. Take note that the next IRA is DUE THIS UPCOMING TUESDAY, Feb. 14! Next week, I will also be introducing a poetry recitation project to the class.

7th Language Arts (Lowdon): We continued to read and discuss Steinbeck's *The Red Pony* and marveled at the many life lessons that exist in each chapter. We will finish the book next week. I conferenced with each student on the story he/she wrote recently; final drafts are due next Thursday. The IRA is due this Tuesday. There is a Worldly Wise test next week on block day (lesson 6). Congratulations to the class spelling bee winners!

8th Language Arts (Lowdon): Students are to read Chapters 9 and 10 in *Where the Red Fern Grows* this weekend. Final drafts of the stories are due on Monday. The IRA is due on Tuesday. There will be a Wordly Wise test next week on block day (lesson 6). Congratulations to the class spelling bee winners!

Religion— [l.devane@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:l.devane@cvillecatholic.org), [v.fallica@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:v.fallica@cvillecatholic.org),  
[h.bryan@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:h.bryan@cvillecatholic.org)

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**Service opportunity:** Church of the Incarnation is hosting a bake sale for the Haiti ministry this weekend. Baked goods can be dropped off at the church on Saturday.

<https://incarnationparish.org/en/bakesale/>

Knights of Columbus will host "Meatless Soup Suppers" at St. Thomas Aquinas each Friday during Lent. They need volunteers to make batches of soup. Please consider signing up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CA4AD28A1F8C70-meatless>

6th (DeVane): This week we read the stories of Jericho, Joshua, and Deborah. We also started reading *The Boy on the Wooden Box*. We first had a brief discussion about the Holocaust. Next week, we will quiz on Chapter 1 of our novel, test on the stories of the Old Testament we have studied so far, and continue reading our novel.

7th (Fallica): This week we polished our Religious Orders projects and presented them to the class. Additionally, we continued our work on the themes and ideas found in the New Testament Letters. Peter calls each of us to a life of humility and obedience to God. John reminds us that God is the source of love and because God loved us, we must love others. Reading Guides were due and we will have a quiz and test next week. The test will cover chapters 23 and E, along with Religious Orders.

8th (Bryan): This week students learned more about how to discern God's will with the help of the Holy Spirit. Students created presentations on the Cardinal and Theological Virtues and the Beatitudes and why they are important and took a quiz on Friday. We completed Letters 1-5 in *The Screwtape Letters* and are working through discussion questions. Students have turned in Church sketches, materials lists, and should be actively building their Churches.

Learning Ally - [read.learningally.org](http://read.learningally.org) - An online library resource with Read Aloud Book options, and can be accessed at home at no additional cost to you.

Username - For example - [h.bryan@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:h.bryan@cvillecatholic.org) (Student email)

Password - For example - catholic1234 (catholic + last 4 of Student ID)

## Science—[m.bruscia@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:m.bruscia@cvillecatholic.org)

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6th: This week we learned about the Kingdom Animalia. We started with the marine invertebrates. We observed specimens from all of the 5 major marine phyla of invertebrates. Next week we will continue invertebrates and dissect a squid.

7th: This week we continued to describe motion by measuring speed, velocity and acceleration. We started to learn about forces with a tug a war game and introduced Newton's laws. Next week we will explore forces and Newton's 3 laws.

8th: This week we discussed geologic time. Students are researching a period in time and creating a travel brochure for a time travel tourist destination. Next week we will work with fossils.

## Spanish—[j.osteen@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:j.osteen@cvillecatholic.org)

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7th and 8th: This week students are learning location. Students got to practice prepositions like "close to" "far from" "above" and "under" by moving all over the classroom, school and

grounds. We then combined these prepositions with house vocabulary to describe where things were located within the home. Students will have a speaking quiz on the house next week during their block classes. Students will be shown a photo of a home and have to speak about it.