



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

# Charlottesville Catholic School

## Friday Newsletter

### Middle School

## February 16th, 2024

Things to note for this up and coming week:

- **School will be closed on Monday, February 19th for President's Day.**
- All adults who will be working with/supervising students (including chaperoning on field trips) need to be VIRTUS-trained. We will be holding another VIRTUS session on Saturday, February 24 from 9:00-12:00 at CCS. Please use the following link to sign up for this session:  
[Sign Up Here](#)
- **FIRST WEEK OF LENT—A SEASON FOR REFLECTION**  
CRS Rice Bowls were distributed this week, the charitable Lenten program from Catholic Relief Services. Your alms given to this cause will help support the work of CRS in over 100 countries. Twenty-five percent of the donations collected via the Rice Bowls stay in our local Richmond Diocese, supporting hunger and poverty alleviation efforts. The other seventy-five percent will assist in CRS causes worldwide. Bowls will be collected at the end of Lent.  
During this holy time, we are called to pause and pay closer attention to our relationship with God and our neighbors. Reflect on how the Lenten pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving can guide your journey and how the Eucharist helps us to live in solidarity with our sisters and brothers around the world. Visit [crsricebowl.org](https://crsricebowl.org) to learn more and read this week's Story of Hope.

The Knights of Columbus host Friday Lenten Soups at Saint Thomas Aquinas during Lent. Please sign up and help out. Making soup is two hours of service for Church or Community. Staying to serve at the Church is another two hours for Church or Community.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A49AFAF2CA75-47374580-friday>

**Students who serve soup must be in their CCS uniform. (formal or everyday)**

**Additional date for service at the Church of the Incarnation—We have added a date to our Donuts & Coffee [sign up](#) for Incarnation for Sunday, Feb 25th. Please consider signing up!!**

Even though the weather is turning colder, we will continue to get the students outside for recess as often as possible. Please make sure your child has the outerwear needed so that they can participate in recess. Below are the guidelines we follow:

- Students should stay inside if the wind-chill factor is below 25°F.
- If the wind-chill is in the 30s, students should have a coat (not a sweatshirt) and it should be encouraged that their heads are covered (hat or cinched coat/sweatshirt hood).
- If the wind-chill is in the 40s, students should at least have a sweatshirt on.
- **Students who do not have the proper outerwear will sit in the front office for recess.**

### **Service Opportunity:**

Church (or community) service opportunity! Baking muffins for Saint Thomas Aquinas! You may earn 1 hour per dozen of muffins you bake. Muffins may be dropped off at STA's kitchen (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, to the right of St Thomas Parish Hall) on Saturday from 0830-6:00 pm or for Sunday Mass at 07:30, 9:00 or 11:30. A label describing the flavor would be helpful. We are most grateful for all contributions and look forward to baking with you!

You must sign up at <https://stauva.flocknote.com/signup/149340>

### **Spring Service Opportunity:**

Please consider signing up your child/children to work morning carline for one week. Students should be dropped off at 7:40 at the front lobby. It can count toward school service hours.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040C44ACAA2DA31-46668632-middle>

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

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6th: This week the 6th graders began learning about the Gilded Age. Next week we will explore the Captains of Industry and Robber Barons who dominated the American economy of this era.

7th: This week the 7th graders finished up their 1950s unit. Next week they will take their 50s unit test on Tuesday.

8th: This week the 8th graders learned about the rise of Norse Raiders. Next week they will take their unit test on Tuesday.



## 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): This past week, we focused primarily on the skill of combining like terms. This coming week, we will look at the Distributive Property as a means to simplify expressions. We will use it as a step that precedes combining like terms, in the process of simplification.

Pre-Algebra (Garland): This past week, we finished up studying the Pythagorean Theorem. This week, we will get into Geometric Transformations on the coordinate plane. Students will investigate and derive rules for reflections, translations, rotations, and dilations.

Geometry (Garland): We will use our knowledge of ratios from this past week to prove triangles similar (through AA~, SSS~, and SAS~). We will also investigate how an angle bisector of a triangle creates proportional segments as do transversals through parallel lines.

Math 7 (Reid): This past week we worked with several properties to include the Commutatives, Associatives, Distributive, Identities, Inverses and Multiplicative Property of Zero. We also started to solve one step equations using the inverse properties. We will continue to solve equations next week that will have both integer and rational answers.

Algebra (Reid): This past week we started to solve systems of linear equations using the graphing, substitution and elimination methods. We have also spent a lot of time using our DESMOS online graphing calculator and understanding its purpose. Next week, we will continue to work with systems looking at systems of linear inequalities as well as word problems.

## Composition, Literature, and Language Arts - [r.hernandez@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:r.hernandez@cvillecatholic.org) & [e.kerrigan@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:e.kerrigan@cvillecatholic.org)

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6th Grade Composition (Kerrigan):

6th Grade Literature (Hernandez): This week, we turned in the IRA and began our new novel, Linda Sue Park's *A Long Walk to Water*. We discussed some of the background for the book. Next week, we will do an analysis quiz on the first three chapters. Please help your student to read and understand these chapters.

7th Language Arts (Hernandez): This week, we turned in the IRA and continued our discussion and comparison of Poe's "Annabel Lee" and "Eleonora." Next week, we will do an analysis quiz on Poe and read his classic poems, "The Raven" and "The Bells." We will also soon begin a writing project connected to our Poe unit.

8th Language Arts (Hernandez): This week, we continued our reading and analysis of *Unbroken*. Students are taking turns presenting chapters from Part 4 to the class. We reflected in our journals on ways in which captives assert their humanity in the midst of

unthinkable cruelty and oppression. We also introduced a narrative writing project connected to our *Unbroken* unit.

## Theology— [d.mehl@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:d.mehl@cvillecatholic.org) & [v.fallica@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:v.fallica@cvillecatholic.org) & [h.bryan@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:h.bryan@cvillecatholic.org)

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6th(Mehl): This week students took a quiz on Chapters 8 and 10 of *Catholic Connections*, covering Old Testament covenants and the prophets. We also continued our video study of Moses and the Exodus. The Sunday readings allowed us to reflect on the meaning of Lent. Next week we will look at Jesus as True God and True Man.

7th(Mehl): This week students took a quiz on Chapters 25 and 26 of *Catholic Connections*, covering Mary and the Saints and the worship of God in the Bible. They also worked to complete their projects on ancient Jewish festivals. The Sunday readings allowed us to reflect on the meaning of Lent. Next week we will look more closely at the liturgy.

8th (Fallica and Bryan): This month, students are learning about the significance of African American Catholics in spreading faith despite oppression. To learn more, here is a resource you may find interesting: [History of African-American Catholics](#)



This week, students studied Marian Solemnities to better understand who she is in the eyes of God. She can help us learn to say “yes” to God in our lives. We finished our journey through Acts and completed a journal reflection during chapel time. Please remember, students should be half way through their church construction.



Church projects are due March 22.

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

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6th: This week we created a model of squid. We discussed form fits function and reviewed Mollusk and specifically squid adaptations. We also dissected a squid and discussed what calamari and Al Nero di Seppia (squid ink) pasta is. Next week we will start our invertebrate project research.

7th: This week we learned about simple machines and mechanical advantages. We solved problems focused on Work and Power. We experimented with pulleys and started our Rube Goldberg Machine projects. Next week we will continue our projects building an energy transfer device.

8th: We wrapped up our unit on the Geosphere and started to explore our knowledge of weather vs climate. We started to learn about the role of the atmosphere in the success of life on Earth. Next we will continue exploring the weather.

6th(DeMaio): The sixth grade students this week learned about culture "The most popular dances in the Hispanic world" they listened to and some learned to dance merengue, salsa, flamenco, cumbia among other styles of music and to distinguish which country each one is from. Many of the unique rhythms and dances of Spanish-Speaking countries are now popular in the USA.

7th(DeMaio): This week the seventh graders started with the topic "Y tú, ¿Cómo eres?=" and you, what are you like?" They are learning about describing others and themselves with new vocabulary. They are also learning to write and talk about it. Grammar: -ar infinitives, adjectives, definite and indefinite articles. Next week: Word order placement of adjectives. Also next Tuesday, those who obtained a low grade in the quiz will have the opportunity to retake it. It is important that these students study and memorize vocabulary, personal pronouns... Everything is found in the Google class. In the category! Infinitive Verbs ar-er-ir.

8th(Mehl): This week the students took a test on the vocabulary of clothing and daily routine verbs. We started to study direct objects and will continue with this topic next week.