



**Charlottesville
Catholic School**
Christ Community Scholars

Charlottesville Catholic School

Friday Newsletter

Middle School

- **Important: MASS changes to Tuesdays, starting this Tuesday, February 7th.**
- It is imperative that your child comes to school in proper outerwear for recess. Coats, hats, and gloves are required for the winter months.

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.

All middle school students are invited to join our choir for mass on Tuesdays, from this week on. They need to arrive around 7:45 AM to practice for Mass and can receive in-school service hours if they help in chorus. I would love more middle schoolers to join us in choir during mass! Thank you so much!
Kate Wisbey

Speaking of music, Ms. Wisbey wanted to share a recording of CCS's music improv's version of Taylor Swift's Anti-hero: [Anti-Hero \(music improv version\)](#) Ms. Wisbey is doing wonderful things with this group. If you are interested in having your child participate, feel free to contact her at this email address to find out further information: k.wisbey@cvillecatholic.org

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-Epiphanly 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. 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

6th: This week the 6th graders learned about the Gilded Age and the ways. Be sure to ask them about Upton Sinclair's "The Jungle." Next week they will explore famous workers rights movements of the era.



7th: This week the 6th graders learned about 1950s American culture and the partitioning of East and West Germany. Next week they will learn about the Korean War and McCarthyism.

8th: This week the 8th graders learned about Feudal Japan. Next week they will take their unit test on the Middle Ages, Mongols, China (pt 2), and Feudal Japan.

Mathematics - j.garland@cvillecatholic.org & j.reid@cvillecatholic.org

Math 6 (Garland): This past week, we explored evaluating expressions, with heavy emphasis on substituting negative numbers for variables. Next week, we will translate written expressions and evaluate them. I plan on quizzing on this skill, Friday, February 10th.

Pre-Algebra (Garland): This past week, we ended by starting to familiarize ourselves with the Pythagorean Theorem. Next week, we will get into word problems, where students will have to produce a right triangle diagram before solving. An in class project will be assigned

and diagrammed on the students' block day, in which they will create their own Pythagorean Word Problem. This will be due on Monday, February 13th. I also plan on assessing the students' triangle skills on that same day.

Geometry (Garland): This past Friday, we finished up our unit on Quadrilaterals. This week, we will take an SOL Practice on Quadrilaterals and test on our unit this coming Thursday. On Friday, we will get into a new unit, entitled, "Similarity". I plan on using a personal hobby of mine, Shark Teeth collecting, to "reel" students into this unit.

Math 7 (Reid): This past week we evaluated expressions and showed a lot of growth from 1st semester using Order of Operations and being able to show our work. It has been such a BEAUTIFUL thing to see! Evaluating expressions allows us to wrap back around and use our skills with signed numbers and order of operations. I have tried to point out to the kids many times the progress they have made and how proud I am of them and all of their hard work! We also started to simplify expressions by combining like terms. Next week we will continue to combine like terms including the distributive property and also learn about various other mathematical properties. Parents, if you wouldn't mind and have the ability to help I would really appreciate it. I started off the year with extra pencils, pens and highlighters for the kids to use and then put back for someone else who may need them that day. The supply has really dwindled and kids are taking time at the beginning of class to get their materials and that is taking a little bit of time. If you have any extra pencils, pens or highlighters you could donate to our classroom, I would really appreciate it :)

Algebra (Reid): This week we learned about how to find the line of best fit through our Hula Hoop Lab. We needed to get real life data to use to find a trend line, so why not use a hula hoop?!? We then used this skill to make predictions about other situations if that trend line continued. Next week, we will be talking more in depth about our Mountain Project and heading towards a test on Writing the Equations of Lines. Parents, if you wouldn't mind and have the ability to help I would really appreciate it. I started off the year with extra pencils, pens and highlighters for the kids to use and then put back for someone else who may need them that day. The supply has really dwindled and kids are taking time at the beginning of class to get their materials and that is taking a little bit of time. If you have any extra pencils, pens or highlighters you could donate to our classroom, I would really appreciate it :)

Composition, Literature, and Language

Arts—e.kerrigan@cvillecatholic.org & l.lowdon@cvillecatholic.org

6th Grade Composition (Kerrigan): This past week, we completed Lesson 11 in *Vocabulary Power Plus* (VPP). Each week, VPP homework is due on Thursday and we have a quiz on Friday. In our grammar studies, we have a quiz on verbs this upcoming Wednesday, Feb. 8.

6th Grade Literature (Kerrigan): The students are enjoying our latest novel, *Maniac Magee*, and our small-group discussions connecting situations in our book to lessons from the Bible. Students also recently wrote poetry on the meaning of home, and they will be researching Black poets and choosing poems to recite as part of our public speaking curriculum.

7th Language Arts (Lowdon): The first IRA for 3rd quarter is due on Feb. 14. There will be a Wordly Wise test, lesson 5, next week. We will continue to review conjunctions and their proper use in sentences next week. Our plan for literature is to continue reading *The Red Pony* and have fabulous discussions about the deeper meaning of the text.

8th Language Arts (Lowdon): The first IRA for 3rd quarter is due on Feb. 14. There will be a Wordly Wise test, lesson 5, next week. Students will have an open-note quiz on *Our Town* next week on block day. We will begin our next novel, *Where the Red Fern Grows*, next week.

Religion— l.devane@cvillecatholic.org, v.fallica@cvillecatholic.org,
h.bryan@cvillecatholic.org

6th (DeVane): We finished our discussion of Exodus and took a quiz this week. We also prepared for the Catholic Bee. Our time in chapel was an opportunity to reflect on the Beatitudes. Next week, we will be reading from the book of Judges and Joshua.

We will also begin reading a novel together, *The Boy on the Wooden Box*. The book will be read and analyzed in class. The classroom will have a few paper copies. Students will also have the ability to read/listen to it through Learning Ally.

7th (Fallica): We took a quiz on Monday that covered Chapter 23. We then continued reading our novel, *The Winged Watchman*. We are actively engaging in discussion groups tying the novel into our faith. Additionally, this week we had fun in the Catholic Bee, and had visits from Father Brian and Father Dan. Students received their project assignments on Religious Orders. These projects will be due next week.

8th (Bryan): Catholic Schools' Week was filled with spirit rich activities including a Catholic Bee, which was done during our Wednesday block class.

Learning Ally - 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 (Student email)

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

Science—m.bruscia@cvillecatholic.org

Science Fair is done for many of us. Congrats to all of the students for a job well done. We will announce the winners on Monday and start to prepare these projects for the regional competition. Have a great weekend!

Spanish—j.osteen@cvillecatholic.org

7th and 8th: This week we have been learning about the house! We have worked on the parts of the house (door, window, roof, ect) and the rooms of the house (bathroom, bedroom, living room, ect). Students also learned the different items of the house (bed, microwave, sink, rug, ect). Next week we will learn location and practice describing where things are located.

Coming up students will have a speaking quiz on the house. For the quiz students will preview pictures of different rooms of the house. On the day of the quiz students will speak one on one with me. I will pull one of the photos at random and the student will be expected to describe the room, the objects of the room and the location of them. This will be spontaneous speaking although we have done similar activities in class. I recommend students continue to practice at home so they feel comfortable and ready the day of the quiz.

I will post the date of the quiz soon on Google classroom, but I want to make sure we have enough time to practice location beforehand.