



**Charlottesville
Catholic School**
Christ Community Scholars

Charlottesville Catholic School

Friday Newsletter

Middle School

February 9th, 2024

Things to note for this up and coming week:

- **School will be closed on Friday, February 16th for conferences (for this round of conferences, teachers will reach out to parents of students that need help...there will not be any sign-ups. With that being said, if you have a desire to talk with a specific teacher, please reach out to him/her)**
- **School will be closed on Monday, February 19th for President's Day.**
- **MASS will be on Wednesday, February 14th for Ash Wednesday, not Tuesday**
- The Mexican Fiesta will be held **NEXT TUESDAY**, February 13th from 5-7pm(in the gym). **Tickets are required** so please reserve yours now. Purchase Meal Tickets [HERE](#)
- 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](#)

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!!

JAMaC, a math competition for middle schoolers in the Albemarle County region, which is organized by Albemarle High School's math club and math honor society, will hold its annual competition on March 2nd, 9:00am – 3:30pm, at Albemarle High School. It is a fun and encouraging way for middle schoolers to gain exposure to competitive math! There is a \$10 fee for each participant. Lunch will be provided, and awards go to the top competitors. Students will participate in teams of 3-4 students. Every student will take two individual tests (either Algebra, Geometry, or General), one team test, and a guts round. Students who perform well in the individual tests will compete in the final round. The questions will be of similar difficulty as

MathCounts or AMC 8. Any questions may be emailed to [David Woodward](mailto:David.Woodward@JAMAC202.com) (the Albemarle Teacher Coordinator of this competition) Team registration at: <https://bit.ly/JAMAC202>

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)

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 (2nd 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

6th: This week the 6th grade finished their Post-Civil War unit. Next week we will move into the Gilded age and the rise of robber barons.

7th: This week the 7th graders learned about the Korean war and the start of the Cold War. Next week they will look into the civil rights movement of the 1950s.

8th: This week the 8th graders learned about the Middle Ages. Next week they will explore the civilizations of sub-Saharan africa.



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

Math 6 (Garland): We finished this past week quizzing on knowledge of translating and evaluating expressions. This coming week, we will get into developing the skill of combining like terms, which is fundamental to Algebra.

Pre-Algebra (Garland): This past week, I assigned the Pythagorean Theorem Project (due February 14th). Students are investigating/creating real life uses of this and producing a Google Doc with their 2 original problems clearly stated, modeled, and solved. Much of this coming week's class time will be spent creating and polishing this project. Students will have an assessment on the Pythagorean Theorem this coming Wednesday.

Geometry (Garland): This past week, we reviewed for a test on our quadrilateral unit, which will span into Monday. The test is going to be split between this coming Tuesday in class and as a take home which will be due on Thursday. On Thursday, we will get into a new unit revolving around similarity/ratios. I am going to use my experience of collecting Shark's Teeth to help allow students to sink their teeth into the material.

Math 7 (Reid): This past week we took our 1st test of the 3rd quarter on Decimal Operations & Comparing Numbers in Various Forms. At the end of the week we started our next unit on Solving Equations. We finished off the week talking about the various properties (commutative, associative, identity, inverse) that allow us to solve equations. Next week we will continue learning about properties and solve equations using 1 inverse operation.

Algebra (Reid): This past week we took our 1st test of the 3rd quarter on Writing Equations of Lines & Functions. At the end of the week we started to solve systems of linear equations using the graphing method. Next week we will continue to solve linear equations using the substitution and linear combination methods.

Composition, Literature, and Language Arts - r.hernandez@cvillecatholic.org & e.kerrigan@cvillecatholic.org

6th Grade Composition (Kerrigan): Students began studying verbs this week, with an introduction to verb forms, auxiliary (helping) verbs and participles. We also completed lesson 12 of *Vocabulary Power Plus*, which means we have a test on lessons 10-12 coming up when we return on Feb 20 from the four-day weekend.

6th Grade Literature (Hernandez): This week, students presented their *Hatchet* projects. I was impressed by the work that they put into the projects. We also tested on the novel. Next week, we begin reading and discussing Linda Sue Park's *A Long Walk to Water*. The 5th IRA is due this coming **Tuesday the 13th**.

7th Language Arts (Hernandez): This week, students compared themes and story elements in Poe's "The Black Cat" and "The Tell-Tale Heart." We began a discussion of "Annabel Lee"

and "Eleonora." We also reviewed pronouns. The 5th IRA is due this coming **Tuesday the 13th**.

8th Language Arts (Hernandez): This week, we continued with *Unbroken*. We assigned chapters from Parts 4 and 5 for students to present in class. We also discussed adverbs and participles. Next week, we will continue with *Unbroken* and begin a writing project. The 5th IRA is due this coming **Tuesday the 13th**.

Theology– d.mehl@cvillecatholic.org & v.fallica@cvillecatholic.org & h.bryan@cvillecatholic.org

6th(Mehl): This week we continued our detailed study of Moses and the Exodus. The Sunday readings gave us the opportunity to discuss Jesus' power to heal both our physical and our spiritual infirmities. We reviewed for the quiz on Chapters 8 and 10 of *Catholic Connections*, which will be on Monday.

7th(Mehl): This week we worked on the project on ancient Jewish festivals as described in Leviticus. This has a due date of Tuesday, although I am having them revise their work to make sure that they are answering the questions that the project seeks to answer. The Sunday readings gave us the opportunity to discuss Jesus' power to heal both our physical and our spiritual infirmities. We also reviewed for the quiz on Chapters 25 and 26 of *Catholic Connections*, which will be on Monday.

8th (Fallica and Bryan): On Monday and Tuesday, students finished their study of the Middle Ages with a test. Block days were spent reading Acts 22-23, reading *Do Hard Things*, praying and writing in their journals. On Friday, students took a short quiz on vocabulary.

Friday, February 15: Students must provide a photo showing approximately 50% completion of their church.

Science– m.bruscia@cvillecatholic.org

6th: This week we investigated specimens found in each of the 5 marine phylums. We discussed how body symmetry helps identify phylums. We also started building our squid model in advance of the dissection. Next week we will dissect a squid and start our invertebrate project.

7th: This week we continued the unit on motion. We experimented with unbalanced forces by challenging each other to tug-o-war. We also started to identify work and power as next week we will build a Rube Goldberg machine to reinforce our knowledge on simple machines.

8th: This week we continued our Geologic Time Period Travel Brochure. Students are researching Periods in time and creating a travel brochure representing their research. We also sorted fossils and discussed paleart. Students will take a fossil they worked with, research and create a representation of the animal when it was in existence. Next week we will wrap up the Geosphere and move onto the Atmosphere.

6th (DeMaio): Sixth grade students continue learning to conjugate infinitive verbs ending "ar" and to recognize infinite verbs ar, er, ir. Next week they will learn the basics of the verb ser and estar=to be verbs in Spanish.

They did activities in which they had to write the correct way to conjugate the verbs according to their ending and subject pronoun. Example: Verbo "Nadar" él nada, yo nado, ustedes nadan, tú nadas...

7th(DeMaio): This week the seventh grade students took their test on the topic: What do you like to do? They also began to learn about the verbo "ser y estar"=to be verb. They are learning new vocabulary and grammar to be able to describe others and themselves, according to their traits and personalities. Next week they will continue developing this topic.

Next Tuesday the 13th they will take a quiz related to the infinitive verb ending "ar" Students have both physical material and information on the topics in their Google classroom to study. They also have access to their Auténtico program books at hand. They just need to ask me and sign a sign out sheet to take them.

I would also like to let you know that on certain occasions I assign homework to students, especially if for some reason we miss a class due to some special event. These assignments are graded, I do my best to help students remember about them. The same handbook policy applies regarding late homework or not turned in after 4 days.

8th(Mehl): This week we did exercises on reflexive verbs and learned some new verbal expressions using infinitives. We also did some review of numbers. We reviewed the vocabulary of clothing and daily routine. We will have a test on this vocabulary on Tuesday.