



Charlottesville Catholic School March Specialists Newsletter 2024

Announcements:

Mary Poppins, Jr. - Come see our CCS middle school musical this upcoming weekend. It is going to be incredible!! Our middle schoolers are performing "Mary Poppins, Jr." in our CCS gym on Friday, March 1st at 6:30 pm and Saturday, March 2nd at 6:30 pm.

Tickets are 15 dollars. Please purchase a ticket here-

[https://events.cvillecatholic.org/mary-poppins-jr/?](https://events.cvillecatholic.org/mary-poppins-jr/)



Free Charlottesville Symphony Orchestra Tickets:

Free student and accompanying adult tickets are available for our Masterworks concert on Sunday, March 17th at 3:30pm at Martin Luther King, Jr. Performing Arts Center at Charlottesville High School.

Please enter your information into this form if you are interested. Please write down the dates to attend:

<https://forms.gle/DbvQudNTH9jBTYdt5>

After School Music Groups Starting in March 2024:

Elementary Choir - Ms. Wisbey (k.wisbey@cvillecatholic.org) Please email if attending.

Grades 2 - 5, Thursdays from 3:30PM - 4:45PM

March 7 - May 23

Each choir class will include physical and vocal warm-ups, a voice and movement activity, solfege karate and finishing with a fun song. Students will be learning fun pop songs from "Antihero" from Taylor Swift and "Thunder" from Imagine Dragons to "Blackbirds" from the Beatles. In the beginning of May, students will perform in the art open house with songs they learned in our choir club. We will finish our time together with a fun day/solfege karate graduation day. Our objective is for students to learn how to sing with solfege, match pitch, blend and find their voice part, as well as learn how to perform. We will also do sight reading and rhythm practice as well. Hope to sing with you all soon!

[☰ Spring 2024 Music Club Schedule](#)

Violin Club/Guitar and Violin Lessons-Sponsored by Patrick Keese(in CCS Music Room)

Who: Violin Club will be offered to students grades 3-5, while violin and guitar lessons will be offered to CCS students of all ages. Both will be sponsored by Patrick Keese, a local violin and guitar teacher. Patrick has been teaching privately in Charlottesville for eleven years, and spent time as the Orchestra teacher at the Charlottesville Waldorf School as well as the orchestral assistant at the Charlottesville High School Orchestra and String Ensemble.

What: Violin Club is a beginner-focused, 10-week after-school program designed to take kids interested in learning the violin from complete novice to playing their first song with a bow. Private lessons in contemporary guitar and classical violin will also be offered at CCS after school for students with more experience or who would benefit from more focused, one-on-one instruction.

When/Where: Violin Club and lessons will both be held in the music room at CCS after dismissal.

Depending on the amount of interest, there will either be one or two club meetings, beginning the week

of **March 4th**. For the first twelve students to sign up, club will meet on **Tuesdays at 3:25pm**; if more than twelve students sign up, there will be an additional slot on **Wednesdays at 3:25pm**. Pickup is **4:35pm** in front of the performance hall behind the school.

Private lessons will take place on both days directly after violin club with slots beginning at **4:50pm**, availability is first-come-first-serve.

Cost and Instrument Rental: Violin Club will cost **\$210 for a 10-week session**, while 45- minute private lessons will cost **\$400 for an 8-week semester**, with other lesson lengths also available at different rates. Families are welcome to use their own instruments, but rentals will also be available and coordinated by Patrick through a string instrument rental company and cost between **\$18 - \$22** per month depending on size. **To Sign Up**, please contact Patrick Keese: patricksviolin@gmail.com (434) 825-8801

Tap Dance - Mrs. Mitchell (c.mitchell@cvillecatholic.org) Please email if attending.

Grades K - 2

Mondays from 3:30PM - 4:40PM

March 11 - May 20

Tap class is all about making music with your feet! Tap classes stress the basics of tap while also teaching musicality and rhythm. Dancers will develop strength of the knees and ankles, coordination, and proper tap technique.

Students will need tap shoes for the class.

SPECIALS:

Library - Mrs. Anne Carbone a.carbone@cvillecatholic.org

March brings us Dr. Seuss Week! Did you know that Dr. Seuss was not a Doctor? His real name was Theodor Seuss Geisel and he wrote over 60 books as Dr. Seuss. He also wrote books under the pen name Theo. Le Sieg (his name spelled backwards).

JK-2 We will be reading books about Dr. Seuss, St. Patrick's Day and Spring.

3-5 We are continuing the Suspense and Mystery genres in March. The Battle of the Books team members are busy reading their selections. The Battle date is March 26th!

6-8 The Battle of the MS team members are also busy reading their selections. The Battle date is March 26th!



Physical Education - Andrew Frazier a.frazier@cvillecatholic.org

K-2: Skills Review and Jump Rope Introduction - We have been reviewing learned skills thus far such as Movement types, throwing and catching, kicking, targets, boundaries, space, physical exercise, body parts and regions affected by exercise, and many other learned skills. We introduced and practiced basic jump rope skills and how to simply “jump” the rope at least one time. Coming up, we will be using “implements” learning to strike while using many different types of implements.

3-5: Jump Rope - This is always a challenging but fun unit. Jump rope is one the most accessible exercise choices available to anyone. We talk about the way jump rope can help improve our physical well being while being an available exercise option to all. As this unit progresses and makes its way to the end. We will soon have a videographed jump rope routine to be completed and done with friends!

MS: Volleyball Skills - Unlike Pickleball, Volleyball is not an accessible sport. While Volleyball is a wonderful game and can be modified to meet all skill levels, it is not an easy game to find space and play. I teach volleyball skills in a sequence from basic hitting skills, to rules, and small/modified game play. My hope is to bring awareness to an amazing game that can universally be played by anyone whether on a court or on the beach. We have dealt with some days off and some interrupted gym space but we will soon conclude the unit and ready ourselves for a basketball skills unit... MARCH MADNESS!

Athletics: CCS has another phenomenal basketball season. The boys went 11-5 and the girls finished 14-1. What a joy it was to watch these groups synchronize throughout the year and play some amazing basketball - Way to go CCS Basketball! Spring sports are set to begin next week, we have tryouts beginning for Girls Soccer and Boys baseball, all track participants will automatically join the teams once committed. Please visit our athletics page on our website to see the schedule of athletic events and please come support our student athletes. Go Archangels!

Art - Vanessa Devlin v.devlin@cvillecatholic.org [@ccsarchangelsarts](https://www.instagram.com/ccsarchangelsarts)

This month, students completed some two-dimensional works using new skills. Students were invited to make creative choices that allowed for a range of media and style while using newly developed drawing skills. We analyzed and discussed artworks by Alma Thomas, Aaron Douglas, Romare Bearden, Faith Ringgold, Clementine Hunter, the Gee's Bend Quilters, Elizabeth Catlett, and other African American artists in celebration of Black History Month. Here are brief summaries of what each grade has been focusing on:

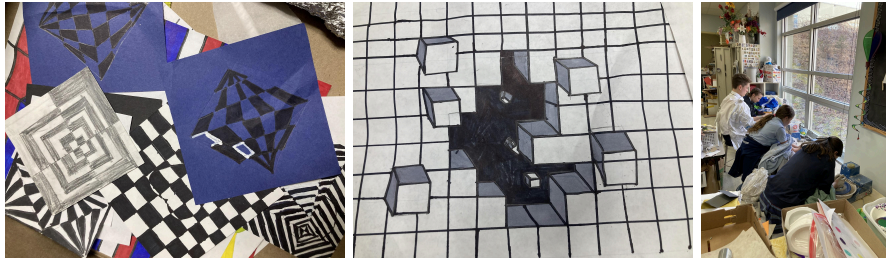
- K- We have really been exploring our painting skills as ways to add color to previously drawn compositions. Students have used colors intentionally, to fill the page and show emotion or personal characteristics. We have also been working on our independence in the art room - practicing how to retrieve, set-up and put away materials by ourselves or in groups.

- 1- Weaving has taken off and some of our first graders continue to add to their looms each week. Meanwhile, students are fully exploring the collage and dry sculpture stations - creating structures with imagination and a LOT of tape.
- 2- Our big focus this month was the world of puppetry. We learned from a wonderful video of Jim Henson that puppets can be made out of nearly anything - from a wooden spoon to an old sock. Students worked in groups to design and construct puppets, props and backdrops to accompany the written retellings of classic stories such as Goldilocks and the Three Bears. Students presented their shows to the JK students last week.
- 3- Self-portraits, both Realistic and Abstract, have given way to mask making. Students learned about how and why some Ancient Civilizations used masks before designing and constructing a mask they would want to wear. Many students created basic armatures using pressed paper forms, aluminum foil, tape, paper and cardboard before adding a "skin" of plaster gauze. Students will be finishing these masks off with paint and other materials to add texture and color.
- 4- Students have spent most of February working on Independent investigations of the sculpture station. We just started a unit on the proportions of the human body with a wire sculpture of the human figure. This will develop into an understanding of how to represent movement when depicting the human form.
- 5- As students completed their One-Point Perspective drawings, we have had several small challenges in the art room including advanced printmaking techniques and a study of positive and negative space in art. Students have been working to independently create in the studio as well.

Middle Schoolers - Independent projects are well underway in the Art Electives as well as General Art. Students have been seen making wire sculptures, painting with watercolor, gouache, acrylic or oil, attempting the potter's wheel, and using LOTS of cardboard.

Enjoy some images from around the studio:





Music - Kate Wisbey k.wisbey@cvillecatholic.org

March is Music in Our Schools Month! Come celebrate by listening to all the songs we have created on soundcloud!



**MARCH IS
MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH®**

**Learn how you can celebrate
your music program this month!**

#MIOSM | #MusicsMe | nafme.org/MIOSM

<https://on.soundcloud.com/e5DSfzMzJxWECd6CA>

CONGRATULATIONS to Bristol Hux for representing Charlottesville Catholic School in District XIII Chorus this past month! Congratulations and great job Bristol!



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: From January through May, 3rd Grade through middle school students start learning different instruments in music. I have created a google drive folder with all the books used to learn the instruments from ukulele, recorder to melodica and piano, so students can practice at home. Please take a look at it when you get a chance and if you have an instrument at home, it is a great way to practice! Enjoy!

☐ CCS MUSIC RESOURCES

JK-2:

- Black History Month! Listening and drawing to songs from famous African American musicians, such as Aretha Franklin (Today, they listened to "RESPECT" and drew what the song reminded them/a word it reminds them in the song); Scott Joplin; Ella Fitzgerald and Jimi Hendrix; Billie Holliday; Louis Armstrong; Etta James; Michael Jackson--

Movement activities-finding the beat in their songs; learned how to scat sing and watched animation of book “Du Iz Tak”, learning how to create scat solos

- Practice solfege with solfege games–rhythm with “Rhythm monster” made by one of our own middle school students! Movement games such as “Bump Up tomato” and “Love, Love, Love”
- 2nd graders got a special visitor: Dr.I-Jen Fang came from the Charlottesville symphony to talk about percussion instruments and what makes a pitched vs.unpitched instrument!



3-5:

- Black History Month! Orff instrument arrangement of "We Shall Overcome"--history of the poem written, history of the music written as well as learning the song through solfege and then through the instruments--extension: Ukulele and recorder on the song
- Played Game: Black History Month Music "this or That" gam

Instrument Units:

-3rd: Ukulele–worked on chords CM, GM, FM and Am– practiced strumming and worked on fingering for songs for our spring Grandparent’s day concert (Songs: “Best Day of My Life” and “Stand by me”)

-4th: Recorder– worked with ghost rhythm games to practice tonguing on our instruments, learned B, A and G, practicing with game on musicplay.com and practiced G and E using the song “I got a letter” for the spring grandparent’s day concert

-5th: Advanced Recorder- worked with B, A, G, E, D and C with games on musicplay.com, worked on music with book “When things aren’t going right, go left” with recorder



Middle School:

-finished our drum unit, learning how to drum with symbols and finished working on our big music projects-”Soundtrack of My life” slideshows, where students compare parts of their life to music and emotions

-students presented their slideshow presentations

-guest speaker Mr.Jodan Perry came and spoke to us about the Music Resource Center and what it has to offer middle school students



MUSIC RESOURCE CENTER:

To become a member, please fill out this form and bring it to either Ms. Wisbey or the Music Resource

Center-<https://musicresourcecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/NEW-MEMBER-APPLICATION-5.2017-1.pdf>

Electives:

Middle School Music Podcast:

New Middle School Podcast is adding two new sections this semester.. Videogame music AND Kitchen music! Learn how to make music out of items out of your kitchen, or learn about the background of the music you might hear in your favorite video game! New Season coming out shortly....

Come take a listen to our new episode that just came out this week:

<https://open.spotify.com/episode/3ZmExkTn9TCdyHZzPW1GWD?si=acHrEJLkQEmt9Ff66s83SA>

Middle School Music Improv:

–paired up with Mrs. Draper’s K class and taught our students music games!

-worked on our songs/creating arrangements for the Heritage Festival at Busch Gardens: “This is Me”, “Brave” and “You Say”

Spanish - Mrs. Denise Demaio d.demaio@cvillecatholic.org

Elementary school:

During this month, elementary students were learning about the basic concept of conjugation, verbs and especially the verbs "ser" and "estar" to describe emotions. They are also reviewing the colors. They really enjoyed learning about the most popular dances in certain Hispanic countries such as flamenco from Spain, cumbia from Colombia, salsa from Puerto Rico among others. They also learned to dance some steps to these rhythms.

In each class before we start the students practice the prayers "Our Father", "Ave Maria" and "Gloria be" in Spanish.



Middle school:

The sixth grade students learned about the verb “estar” and “ser”=“to be”. One of the most common verbs in Spanish, and how to conjugate it according to the rules.

The seventh grade students have learned new vocabulary and grammar to be able to describe others and themselves, according to their traits and personalities.

In each class before we start the students practice the prayers "Our Father", "Ave Maria" and "Gloria be" in Spanish.

Other topics learned

- Y tú, ¿Cómo eres?=And you, what are you like?
- Infinitivos=Infinitives (ar,er,ir)
- Los verbos=the verbs
- Conjugacion de “ar” verbs=conjugation of ar verbs.
- Verbos “ser” and “estar”= to be

