



# Charlottesville Catholic School

## March Specialist Newsletter 2023

### Announcements

Important Dates: CCS Annual Arts Week is May 7-13.

Wednesday, May 10, 4-7 - Arts Open House, volunteers needed

There will be a music performance in the hallway to listen and watch as families explore all the beautiful artwork all our students have done!

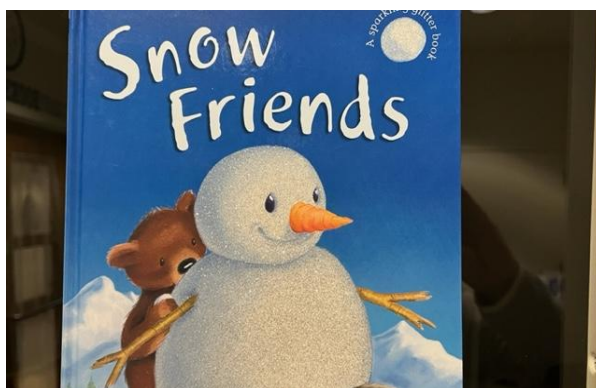
Friday, May 12- Grandparent's Day Performance

Mass Choir: It is official! Students from grades 4-8 are invited to join us in the mass choir. In order to participate, students are required to attend our practice rehearsal at 7:45 AM on Tuesdays before mass. Students can choose to do just one week, or every week. Hope to sing with your children soon!

Congratulations to our February VA District XIII choir students for a wonderful performance– Bristol Hux, Ellie Bruscia and Kristie Yates!



Library - Jennifer Furin/  
[j.furin@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:j.furin@cvillecatholic.org)



We read so many books about snow since the last newsletter, we were sure we would get a snow day. In kindergarten and first grade we read/heard the following stories: Snowflakes, Snowflake Bentley, The Snowman, Over and

Under the Snow, Snow Friends, Max and Sarah build a Snowman, First Snow in the Woods, Waiting for Winter, and Before We Sleep. We had many discussions about what we would do if it snowed. Alas, it was not to be but maybe next year. We also had a few holidays that we learned about through stories: there was Chinese New Year, Groundhog's Day, Valentine's Day, and Mardi Gras. We are now moving into spring with some stories about the Iditarod, St. Patrick's Day, and then Easter!



Second graders studied the components of the Mystery genre. We read The Chameleon Wore Charteuse, a Chet Gecko Mystery and Inspector Flytrap, a Venus flytrap that solves Big Deal Mysteries and compared the two to see what they had in common. We are now reading about dinosaurs. Our first story was Dinosaur Cove. We also read a nonfiction book that gave characteristics about dinosaurs. After finishing the students had to do a little research on three of the dinosaurs to

fill out their dino sheet. We are now reading Dinosaur Detectives, a Magic School Bus story.

\*Special Note for K - 5 parents\* if your student is having a birthday and you would like to come in to read a "special" story, please send me an email. It could be a fun surprise.

Third graders finished their science fiction stories. We are now reading a fantasy book called The Dragon of Doom which is a Moongobble and Me series. We discussed the fantasy genre and books that would be considered fantasy that they have read.

Fourth and fifth graders continue to select books for their assignments in LA class. Fourth grade is still reading a realistic fiction book. The story is Al Capone Does My Shirts by Gennifer Choldenko. Fifth grade has moved into classics. We are reading The Phantom of the Opera adapted by Lisa Mullarkey.

#### Library days

K: Tuesday/Friday

2nd grade: Monday/Tuesday

4th grade: Friday

1st: Monday/Tuesday

3rd grade: Thursday

5th grade: Monday

Physical Education - **Andrew Frazier** [a.frazier@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:a.frazier@cvillecatholic.org)

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#### **K-2: Striking With Implements / Skills Review**

-K-2 is experiencing similar objectives to the **3-5** (see below.) However, I simply change the expectation to focus on swinging across your body through a horizontal plane or a vertical plan depending on the type of 'strike' being made. For example, a bowling motion struck by a paddle would come across a vertical plane, but it could also be done in a sweeping motion using sideways orientation. Again, this helps students understand



their body and how to control their bodies when implementing different objects, creating various types of speed and power, and focusing on hitting targets.

### **3-5: Striking With Implements**

-Unit Objectives:

1. Sideways preparation for the striking action.
2. Step forward on opposite foot as contact is made.
3. Coil and uncoil the trunk for preparation and execution of the striking action.
4. Swing implement on a horizontal plane.
5. Follow-through for completion of the striking action.

-This is one of my favorite units that I cover with this age group. Focusing on the objectives, we teach our self body control while using different implements such as Paddles, Hockey Sticks, Rackets, Bats, and more. The use of these implements help prepare us late for the exposure to larger team sport where these implements are formally used. This is a favorite because it allows kids to identify pieces of equipment they may or may not be familiar with. At this age range, some sports may be introduced but not formally played. Instead we would play a “small-sided alike” game simulating the skills needed for the actual game. Example: Paddles used for pickleball - Instead of actually playing pickleball, we would play lead up games that simulate the pickleball game and modify the activities that are appropriate and that provide a chance for success.

### **6-8: Basketball**

-Unit Objectives: Skills learned and applied - Dribbling, Passing, Shooting, Teamwork offensively and defensively, Game rules and application.

-Basketball is always a popular choice this time of year. Although it may not be everyone's first choice, I try to create awareness to the game as “March Madness” is a huge part of our economical and social world. I also try to instill the accessibility of playing basketball and that it is a great exercise tool to use as we age. My hope is to understand the game and learn the skills, as mastering the skills is not my main goal, but creating awareness and knowing that you have this wonderful game as a healthy active choice for the rest of your life. — We are in the early/mid stages of the unit and the focus thus far has been heavy skill activity. Focusing on the three basic fundamental skills in basketball - Dribbling, passing, and shooting. We have incorporated several types of activities that provide practice and simulation of those skills. As we progress and learn the rules of the game, we will conclude with a small tournament!

**Athletics:** Spring is a busy sports season. At one time girls soccer was the sole sport and as of this year we have our Track team in their 2nd year and a brand new baseball team playing in their inaugural season. Keep your eyes on the Archangel Announcement every Sunday afternoon for upcoming events. We look forward to seeing you out there. Good luck to everyone this Spring - Go Archangels!!!

**\*\*Special Announcement\*\***

**Camp4Real**



**Camp4Real Kids Night Out is Coming Soon! We are excited to welcome Camp4Real to Charlottesville Catholic School on Friday, March 17 to host an awesome Kids Night Out event for our school community!**

**Kids Night Out is a three-hour drop-off event that gives parents and caregivers the opportunity to have a night out while children enjoy a safe and exciting evening of active and engaging fun with their peers -- with a delicious catered dinner included!**

**Camp4Real events are led by Camp4Real founder and experienced physical educator, Scott Williams (AKA Mr. Dubs!), and he will be joined by our own Andrew Frazier! The Camp4Real team is passionate about engaging children and families in fun, active play while incorporating dynamic education on the fundamentals of nutrition and movement for a healthy lifestyle.**

**Family fun with an impact!**

**Camp4Real is proud to support the CCS community and will donate a portion of the event proceeds right back to our school!**

**Plus, Camp4Real offers sibling discounts!**

Learn more and register here: <https://camp4real.regfox.com/3-17-23-kno>

Learn more about Camp4Real here: [Camp4Real - Home | Real Fun. Real Food. Read Active. Real Awesome.](#)

Art - Vanessa Devlin [v.devlin@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:v.devlin@cvillecatholic.org)  [@ccsarchangelsarts](#)

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The Annual School-wide Art Show will be up for viewing May 8-12 in the CCS Gym (Thank you Mr. Frazier!). This year we will have our Arts Open House on Wednesday, May 10th, from 4 until 7. It will include visual art from all students at CCS. This year there will be Art on display throughout the school and there will be an extended schedule of events and activities on campus such as a Black Light Aquarium and musical performances.

**We will need a great team of volunteers to pull off a wonderful night celebrating the Arts. If you would like to be involved in any way - from prepping Art before the show, to serving refreshments or running activities - please email me at my address listed above. There will also be a Sign-Up Genius going live next week through the Tuesday Teller.**

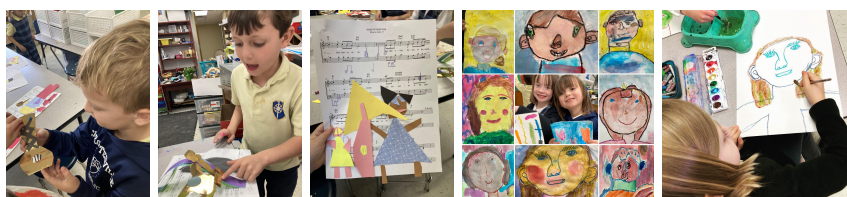


March is Youth Art Month! We have been celebrating it in part with a March ART Madness activity with students selecting “regional winners” for the past couple of weeks. Currently, Andy

Goldsworthy has a place in the semi-finals and Georgia O’Keeffe is looking like the favorite to meet him there. This activity has produced a lot of fun discussion about Art History in the classroom and in the hallways!

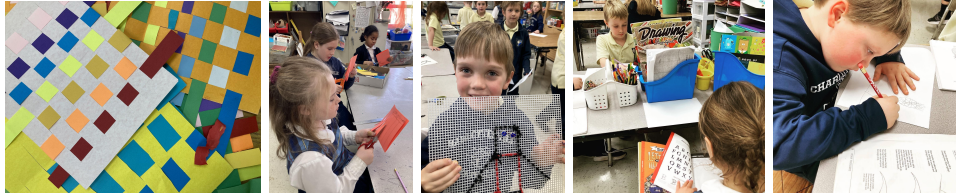


**Kindergarten We are now into our clay unit! Students have been exploring clay, and how we can manipulate it with our hands and with tools. We have focused on form and texture.**





**First Grade** First Graders have loved our extended unit on fiber arts. We are wrapping it up with a paper weaving before we move on to clay next week.



**Second Grade** We pulled off an amazing series of puppet shows with original props, sets and puppets this past month. We made works inspired by the art of Alma Thomas and now we are into our clay unit - using pinch pots as the base for our creations.



**Third Grade** The mask unit, which crosses over into the Social Studies ancient civilizations curriculum, is fully underway. Students are learning to use plaster gauze, papier mache, and other additive elements to create a unique mask for today



**Fourth Grade** We have been focusing on precision and craftsmanship as we learn how to create Op art using rulers correctly and display it in an "Explosion Book".



**Fifth Grade** All of the 1-Point perspective projects have been completed and students have been enjoying independent studio time before we begin a unit on the art of stained glass - tying in to the Religion curriculum.

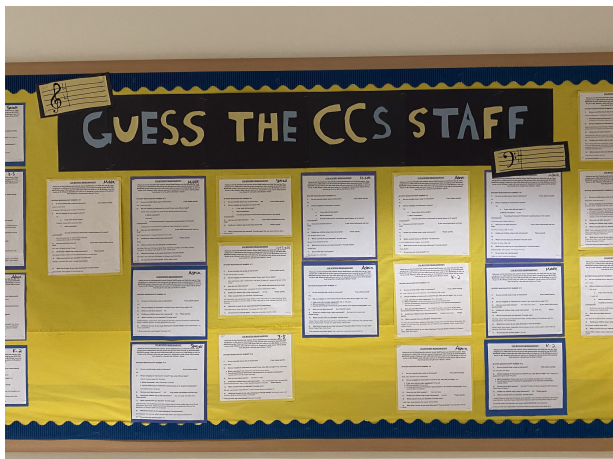


**Middle School** Many of our Middle School students are on to their second or third piece of work, while others are still on their first, giving it extended focus and attention. All of our students are engaged in making authentic works of art.



Music - Kate Wisbey [k.wisbey@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:k.wisbey@cvillecatholic.org)

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This month, we celebrate “Music in Our Schools Month!” This month, we celebrate by hosting a fun musical game called “Find the CCS Mystery Musician/Staff!” We have a bulletin board with questions answered by all our staff here at Charlottesville Catholic School about their favorite music, music experience, etc. Students have to figure out what answer matches up with which teacher. The first student who guesses the teacher correctly wins a raffle ticket. At the end of March, we will be picking a winner from the whole school on CCS Broadcast to win a giftcard to Brazo’s Tacos! Goodluck and Happy music guessing!

Congratulations to Monica and Vanessa Goodwin for finding our first mystery musician/staff member at CCS!

**K-2:** In our K-2 Classes, we started off February learning about the story “Snowy Day.” We acted out the characters in parts of the story, and related to it with movements such as ice skating, sledding, jumping and more. We then talked about Black History Month and the different musicians that have shaped the types of music that we listen to and sing today. We even learned a little about Ella Fitzgerald in jazz songs and learned how to scat sing. We finished this month with a scat singing song “Du Iz Tak?”, where our students learned how to sing scat singing and then created their own scat solos in small groups using index cards with different scat words on them. Students then created body percussion movements that went with each word and we performed them as a whole song. Students sung all together a common melody we learned from “Du Iz Tak?” in-between each group’s scat solo!



*Learning “the Fan Dance” from the Chinese New Year Celebration (celebrated late)*

### **3-5:**

**3rd grade: Ukulele!** Students learned:

- How to hold a ukulele
- Fingerings
- Types of strumming
- C chord
- F chord
- A minor Chord
- G Chord

Using resources, such as this: [\(7\) Kasey's Music Method - YouTube](#), students learned how to play popular songs, such as “Roar” from Katy Perry and Senorita

-We are also beginning a fun Ukulele packet that includes fun kid’s songs. If you would like a copy of this packet to practice at home, please feel free to e-mail me at:

[k.wisbey@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:k.wisbey@cvillecatholic.org)





*Birthday circles and how to hold and play a Ukulele!*

**4th and 5th grade:**

- Parts of a recorder
- How to blow on a recorder
- G, A and B notes
- How to make a recorder strap
- How to clean a recorder
- Recorder workbooks- please feel free to e-mail me if you would like a copy of this. Students learn how to read notes as well as play them in fun kid songs as well!
- Students used a fun slideshow I have from a teaching workshop called “Scary Recorder Stories”-- each recorder slide shows a video about different mystical creatures, how they relate to Virginia and a background track with an electric guitar and drum to practice with– If this is something you would like a copy of at home to practice with, please feel free to e-mail me at :  
[k.wisbey@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:k.wisbey@cvillecatholic.org)
- Movement and recorder games, such as: Baby Step Back, Olympics Theme





*Learning how to breathe, slow and steady breath for recorders, how many ways a recorder can make music and creating melodic and rhythmic ostinatos*



*4th Grade Playing "Recorder Olympics"*

### **Middle School Music Classes:**

-introduction to drum class, movement and rhythmic games and introduction to Orff Instruments– Next month, 6th grade- piano, 7th grade: piano or ukulele, 8th grade: melodica



*Learning rhythm and music math through drumming and jump ropes!*

### **Middle School Literacy/Music class with Mrs.Kerrigan:**

- Lesson on Hamilton– students learned about meter in music, as well as meter in poetry–students created their own ostinatos (verses within the song) using



rhythm of the words in the chorus and added movements to it. Students then performed it as a song to the class.



*Creating verses of “Alexander Hamilton” using rhythm of notes and body percussion*

### **Middle School Choir:**

- Finished working on District choir songs!
- Began to work “Million Dreams” and “This is Me” for the spring open house art show

### **Middle School Music Improv class:**

- began to work on a pop song medley with Taylor Swift for the spring open house art show
- began to learn to create an accompaniment for a song the Middle school choir is working on

Take a listen to our new music improv version of Taylor Swift’s antihero song:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1k-bQyvydYLoyVKwwwCdOjY72eYq1RAO1/view?usp=sharing>

Spanish - Jasmine Osteen [j.osteen@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:j.osteen@cvillecatholic.org)

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¡Hola a todos!

Over the past few weeks students in grades 3-5th have been talking all about food! Students learned common vocabulary for food and drink and also ways to say “I am hungry” and “I am thirsty”. Students designed their perfect meal and played lots of games to practice the vocabulary!

We also spent some time talking about traditional dishes from Spanish speaking countries such as tamales, flan, tortilla española and more! Students discussed how the environment and geography of a country affects the food and how the dishes would vary country by country.

Next, we will celebrate Easter by discussing how it is celebrated across the spanish speaking world and we will also begin our unit on animals!

In 6th grade students have been learning basic conversation skills and wrote some great skits! They performed them for their peers and we discussed what each conversation was about. The 6th graders then took a short break from vocabulary and went on a virtual field trip to Spain. They learned all about this beautiful country right from our classroom!



# KIDS NIGHT OUT *reMix*



## CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

6-9 PM

CHILD DINNER INCLUDED!

PROCEEDS BENEFIT CCS!

RISING 1ST-7TH GRADERS!

**KIDS NIGHT OUT** IS A DROP-OFF EVENT THAT GIVES PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE A NIGHT OUT WHILE CHILDREN ENJOY A SAFE AND EXCITING EVENING OF ACTIVE AND ENGAGING FUN WITH THEIR PEERS.

LED BY CAMP4REAL FOUNDER AND EXPERIENCED PHYSICAL EDUCATOR, SCOTT WILLIAMS (AKA MR. DUBS!), AND A TEAM OF AMAZING ASSISTANT DIRECTORS AND COUNSELORS, WE ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT ENGAGING KIDS IN ACTIVE PLAY WHILE INCORPORATING THE FUNDAMENTALS OF NUTRITION AND MOVEMENT FOR A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE.

### NEW TO CAMP4REAL KNO? HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT:

- A KID-FRIENDLY, PLANT-BASED CATERED DINNER
- A VARIETY OF EXCITING P.E. STYLE GROUP GAMES AND ACTIVITIES
- A SAFE, SUPPORTIVE, AND INCLUSIVE SPACE FOR YOUR CHILD TO PLAY
- A FUN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO TEST DRIVE THE CAMP4REAL SUMMER CAMP EXPERIENCE



SCAN ME