



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

# Charlottesville Catholic School

## Friday Newsletter

### 5th Grade

### 03/22/2024

#### **Teacher's Message/Announcements:**

- Mass for Tuesday, March 26 has been canceled. Students do not need to be in formal dress that day.
- **Spring Dress begins on Monday, April 8** (when we return from Easter Break).
- Thursday, March 28 is an 11:30AM dismissal and begins Easter Break. JK Extended Day will NOT be offered that afternoon.
- Gala Auction "Stock the Bar" Wall  
The *Wall of Wine* has been one of the most coveted auction items of galas past and this year the wall is growing to include all you'll need to fully STOCK YOUR BAR. The *Stock Your Bar Wall* will include 50 bottles of wine and spirits, mixers, and bar tools and we need your help to make this happen! Please drop off donations to the front office (you can also hand it off in carline and a teacher will ensure it gets somewhere safe). Thank you for your help!
- Please see the important note in the science section of this newsletter.
- Although we are at the end of the third quarter, and would normally have our CBG party next week, because it is Holy Week, we will be postponing the party until after Easter Break.
- Please refill your student's supply of pencils. Thank you!
- CCS is honored to be able to offer four scholarships to our rising 5th-8th grade students. Please see the attached information packet for scholarship descriptions and the application. All current 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th grade students are encouraged to apply. The required student essay will be written in school on

Tuesday, April 16 from 3:30-4:30pm. All required documents should be returned on that date prior to the writing session.

[2024 Scholarship Packet](#)

### Calendar/Important Dates:

- **Wednesday, March 27:** Ch 8 Fossil science TEST

### Teacher email addresses:

[d.samley@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:d.samley@cvillecatholic.org)

Reading, Writing and Theology

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

Math, Science and Social Studies

## Social Studies

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In history we will be learning about early US history and how we came to be a nation. We will be learning about westward expansion, the Louisiana Purchase and the War of 1812.

As part of learning about Westward Expansion, students are encouraged to play Oregon Trail online. Here's the link: <https://oregontrail.ws/games/the-oregon-trail/play/>

## Math

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We have been working with numberless word problems. We will begin our unit on algebraic thinking.

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To reinforce math concepts and skills, students are assigned sections for Khan Academy ([khanacademy.org](https://www.khanacademy.org)). This is for a grade. Students have their login and password in their planner. The 4rd qtr. requirements, **due before the end of the quarter 5/23/24** are Multiplying Fractions, Algebraic Thinking and Divide Decimals (under 5th grade - **not** Getting Ready for 5th).

## Language Arts/Reading/Writing

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This week students began reading *The Phantom Tollbooth* and took a test on homophones. Because of the busy schedule this week (ACRE Test, VIRTUS lesson, early dismissal on Friday, etc.), we did not get to introduce analogies. We will be introducing that next week.

Next week, students will also continue reading *The Phantom Tollbooth*. After having a reading assignment from the book for homework, most times students will have a reading comprehension quiz on the material. We will also study nouns in direct address, one of the easiest topics in our grammar curriculum.

## Theology

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This week we started a unit on the Pentateuch. As part of this unit, students will be creating Interactive Notebook entries on the various stories. They will receive a completion grade for completing these for homework, but at the end of the unit, they will be turned in for a project grade. We also took the ACRE test this week and had our VIRTUS lesson on Empowering God's Children.

Next week, we will continue with the unit on the Pentateuch.

## Science

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We will be learning about fossils and making fossil molds. The big idea will be how we use fossils to understand history and to see how organisms change over time. We will have a test on fossils on 3/27. Students will have a study guide to help them prepare for the test.

### Important:

**In order to safely view the solar eclipse, on April 8th, we will be making safety viewers from boxes. Please send in to school boxes - shoe boxes or smaller sized boxes, or small cereal boxes.**



***Reminder: The Father/Daughter Dance is TOMORROW (Saturday, March 23) from 6:00PM-8:00PM. While online ticket sales have closed, you may buy tickets at the door.***

Dear CCS Families,

We are excited to announce a rare and extraordinary opportunity for your child: the chance to witness a partial total solar eclipse firsthand. On April 8, 2024, a total solar eclipse will occur in North America, and we will offer education and limited viewing time for students. Although we are not in the path of totality, we expect to see over 86% coverage.

We understand that witnessing such a celestial event can be both thrilling and educational, but safety remains our top priority. Rest assured that we will take all necessary precautions to ensure the safety and well-being of your child during this event.

Here are some measures we will be implementing to keep your child safe:

**Supervision:** Faculty and staff members will be present at all times to supervise the students during the viewing event. They will guide the students on proper usage of solar viewing devices, and will ensure that everyone follows safety protocols.

**Education on Safety:** Prior to the eclipse, our teachers will conduct educational sessions to inform students about the science behind solar eclipses and the importance of using proper eye protection or viewing devices. We will emphasize the necessity of following safety guidelines to prevent any risk of eye damage.

**Controlled Viewing Environment:** The viewing location will be carefully selected to provide a clear and unobstructed view of the eclipse. We will set up designated viewing areas where students can safely observe the eclipse under the guidance of our staff.

We believe that this rare astronomical event presents a valuable learning opportunity for our students, and we are committed to making it a safe and memorable experience for everyone involved. Because the projected time-frame of this event coincides with afternoon carline, students may only be able to see the very beginning stages of the eclipse while at school.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the eclipse please visit <https://science.nasa.gov/eclipses/future-eclipses/eclipse-2024/>

Thank you for entrusting us with the education and well-being of your child. We look forward to sharing this remarkable experience with them.

In Christ's love,

Vada Fallica, Principal

Mike Bruscia, Middle School Science