



Charlottesville Catholic School Specialist

Important Upcoming Reminders

Date	Event
5/7	Art Show Open House and Family Night
5/5-5/9	Scholastic Book Fair
5/9	Grandparents and Great-friends Day
5/23	Field Day

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

The year is rapidly coming to a close and we are working on finishing up the books that we are reading together as a class.

JK-We are reading picture books about Palm Sunday and Easter

K/1st -We are reading from the *Marvin Redpost series* by Louis Sacher

2nd- Loves the Weir School series! by Dan Gutman

3rd-We are reading *The Wishtree* by Katherine Applegate

4th/5th-We are reading *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo

The week of May 12-16 will be the last week for book check-outs (unless a book is needed for a classroom assignment). Please have your child start to locate and return any overdue books.

Of course, the highlight of the year is the Scholastic Book Fair which will be May 5-9th. The younger students will visit the bookfair to create a wishlist on their first Library visit of the week and will shop on their second visit. You are welcome to shop together at the Art Show or on Grandparents' Day instead.

I could really use your help with the fair! Please see the Sign-up Genius:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoB4DA5AB2AA0F4C16-55823822-ccsbook#/>

P.E. - *Ms. Madison Varney* m.varney@cvillecatholic.org

Mark Your Calendars – Field Day is Coming!

Field Day will take place on **Friday, May 23, from 8:00 AM - 11:30 AM!** This is a **half-day event**, and we need **lots of parent volunteers**—around **50 or more**—to help make this day fun and successful for our students. Aftercare will be available for students who have signed up.

We will need help with **setting up before the event and cleaning up afterward**, so if you're available to assist beyond the 8:00-11:30 timeframe, we would greatly appreciate it!

A **sign-up sheet** will be sent out after Easter Break, but we wanted to start spreading the word early so that anyone interested in helping can plan ahead and request time off if needed. If you'd like to volunteer or have any questions, please feel free to reach out!

Here's what our students have been working on in PE class this month and what we'll continue focusing on as we head into spring:

Kindergarten – 2nd Grade

We've been practicing shoe tying skills! Learning to tie shoes independently helps build confidence and fine motor skills. If you have a chance, please encourage your child to practice at home as well!

3rd – 5th Grade

Students are working through fitness testing and participating in cooperation games that promote teamwork, sportsmanship, and communication. It's been great to see them encourage one another and grow in their personal fitness journeys.

6th – 8th Grade

We've started our spring FitnessGram testing, which includes:

- The Pacer Test
- Cadence push-up and curl-up tests
- Flexed arm hang
- Pull-ups
- Sit and Reach flexibility test
- Mile run

These assessments help students understand their current fitness levels and set personal goals for growth. We're emphasizing effort, perseverance, and a positive mindset!

Thank you for your continued support, and feel free to reach out with any questions!

A whirl of activity is happening every day in our Art Studio as we prepare to hang our annual Art Show the weekend of May 2, 3 and 4. Students are adding finishing touches to their pieces, writing artist statements and sneaking last minute entries into the stacks of work to be hung. Excitement is building, but we need your help!

Please consider signing up to help hang the show. We have over a thousand original works of art that need to be pinned, arranged or hung. Food and drink are provided for volunteers, as is my gratitude for your time and energy. Sign up Here:

[Art Show Volunteer SignUp](#)

Wednesday, May 7th is your chance to enjoy fellowship with our families and staff as we have our can't miss Art Show Open House from 4 until 6. We will have art making stations again this year, as well as some creative competition for a cause. Please mark your calendars to join us.

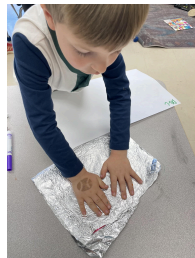


We wrapped up our 3rd annual Art March Madness this week by announcing the overall favorite of CCS students - Balloon Dog by Jeff Koons!

Have a wonderful spring break!



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Dear parents,

Music this month has brought so much joy and intrigue!

All grades have learned new worship music for mass, and we are slowly moving our weekly mass music to include a more upbeat and contemporary song selection (as the students seem to engage more with this style of music).

This month in music, we have gone back to basics- discussing rhythm and beat, while introducing notes, note values, rests, meter, and time signature. Some students already

possess this prior knowledge, be it from extra curricular music-related activities or previous years in music. However, for most of the students, the concepts of note values and beginning to read music on a page is brand new.

JK-1st grade: I have introduced a *Music Spotlight of the Week*, highlighting music excellence among some of the great contributors to music. So far, we've highlighted: Billy Joel, Julie Andrews, and Scatman Crothers. Students learn a few things about our spotlight, and we listen to some of their music. In addition to music spotlight, we've done a unit on notes and note values. All students have learned the note values for whole note, half note, and quarter note, as well as their corresponding rests. We have done some "music and math" worksheets, to help enforce note values. Please see the following example below:

$$\text{Quarter Note} + \text{Half Note} = \boxed{5}$$

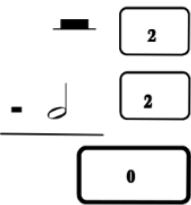
2nd-3rd grade: I have introduced a *Music Spotlight of the Week*, highlighting music excellence among some of the great contributors to music. So far, we've highlighted: Billy Joel, Julie Andrews, Dick Van Dyke, Louis Armstrong, Aretha Franklin and Scatman Crothers. Students learn a few things about our spotlight and why these people are significant contributors. We also listen to some of their music and/or watch sound clips from former movies in which they have starred. In addition to music spotlight, we've done a unit on notes and note values. All students have learned the note values for whole note, half note, dotted half note, quarter note, and eighth note, as well as their corresponding rests. We have done some "music and math" worksheets, to help enforce note values. Please see the following example below:

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{Dotted Quarter Note} \quad \boxed{3} \\ \text{Half Note} \quad \boxed{2} \\ + \text{Quarter Note} \quad \boxed{1} \\ \hline 6. \quad \boxed{6} \end{array}$$

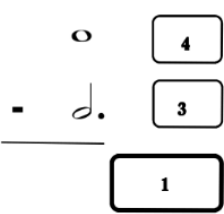
4th grade: Fourth graders have been busy working on the Passion Play (which is Thursday, 4/17 @9am in the gym). We have used music class as rehearsal time for the music and theater components of the show. They have worked hard to learn and memorize three songs as well as learn and memorize an extensive script. Please consider joining the school on Holy Thursday to see this beautiful rendition of the passion of Christ, as we prepare for Easter.

5th-MS: I have introduced a *Music Spotlight of the Week*, highlighting music excellence among some of the great contributors to music. So far, we've highlighted: Billy Joel, Julie Andrews, Dick Van Dyke, Louis Armstrong, Aretha Franklin and Scatman Crothers. Students do mini research classwork assignments to learn a few things about our spotlight and why these people are significant contributors. Most of the students do recognize one/two songs by each artist, without necessarily knowing that they had heard of this person previously. When only six people out of 160 in the combined grade levels knew of Aretha Franklin by name, that aged me

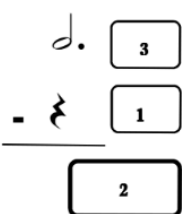
a bit (however some of them recognized *RESPECT* and *I Say a Little Prayer for You* when I played the songs). In addition to music spotlight, all students have learned the note values for whole note, half note, dotted half note, quarter note, eighth notes, and sixteenth notes, as well as their corresponding rests. We have done some “music and math” worksheets, to help enforce note values. Please see the following examples below:



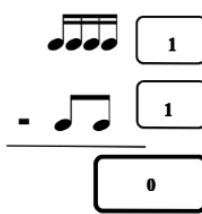
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Grades JK-5th grade are busy working on their Spring concert materials. The Spring concert will be held May 9, 2025 in the gym. Please look out for upcoming newsletters from Administration for more details.

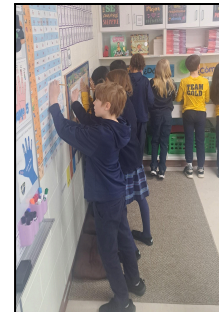
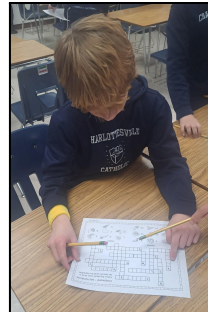
As always, I hope you're well, and thank you for sharing your children with us. It is an honor to teach them music!

Peace-

Annie Keller (& Wallace)

Spanish- *Ms. Denise DeMaio* d.demaio@cvillecatholic.org

The students have learned about food. Different types of foods and their category: fruits, vegetables, meats, grains, fats, sweets. They learned vocabulary through different types of activities such as worksheets, games, presentations, scavenger hunts, videos, and songs. Grammar verbs include gustar (to like), encantar (to love), comer (to eat), beber (to drink). Phrases "a mi me gusta" (I like). A mi no me gusta" (I don't like). When to use "gustan" "encantan" Also, at the end of the past quarter, they watched the movie Ratatouille in Spanish and at the end they answered questions related to the vocabulary of the food mentioned in the movie. The following weeks' topics include: Celebration of “La semana Santa”=Holy Week in Latin America. At the restaurant, review of body parts, clothing.



Elementary SEL lessons are in full swing this spring! Here's a breakdown of what we have been working on:

JK: This month, JK students have learned two more options for solving social conflicts. They learned and practiced how to "ignore" when Mrs. Decker (posing as a JK student) made several unhelpful choices during a classroom lesson. Additionally, they learned how to ask and negotiate turn-taking within classroom activities. While students have received explicit practice with these skills, their best understanding of these strategies is fostered by the daily guidance of their teachers and caregivers. Asking questions such as "how would you like to solve this problem?" or "what could you do to solve this?" can help to build their independence in selecting effective strategies independently.

Kindergarten: Kindergarten continues to explore the actions of a good friend. This month, Kindergarten students identified the components of active listening and practiced putting it to use with classmates. Additionally, Kindergarten students have learned that using compliments is a way to encourage classmates and help others feel good about themselves.

First Grade: First graders have been learning more about the helpful and unhelpful choices that they can make in the classroom and when navigating conflict with friends. Most recently, first graders practiced what to do when unhelpful choices are made in the classroom (ignore and let the teacher take care of it). Next, first graders will be learning how their personal helpful or unhelpful choices will lead to a positive or negative consequence. This knowledge will support students in developing responsible decision making skills.

Second Grade: Second graders have been deep into their exploration of conflict resolution. They have had a lot of fun using drama to explore their choices for resolving conflict peacefully. Next, second grade will be applying this new knowledge as they sort through realistic scenarios and determine how they might approach a conflict.

Third Grade: Third graders continue to explore qualities of a healthy friendship. Our most recent two SEL sessions have focused on how to show support and encouragement to our friends. This practice has occurred through presenting the students with realistic scenarios and having them reflect on how they might show support to a friend. Third grade students will continue to explore qualities of a healthy friendship throughout the upcoming weeks.

Fourth Grade: After some focused practice on perspective-taking and its importance when navigating social conflict, fourth grade has just entered the practice phase of the conflict resolution unit. Our most recent session included an introduction to conflict resolution strategies, as well as a quick exploration of how these might be applied in real-life situations. Fourth graders will continue to receive practice applying these strategies over the next month during SEL lessons.

Fifth Grade: Fifth graders are continuing to explore coping strategies for managing uncomfortable emotions. Fifth graders have received an introduction on how coping strategies might be used and are working toward developing a list of their own preferred strategies.

Middle School: Please reach out if you have any concerns about your middle schooler. At this time, individual and group support options are available for a variety of social-emotional needs.

2025 GALA AUCTION

APRIL 2025



*Save
The
Date*

May 3rd

The Charlottesville Omni

Silent Auction, Dinner,
Live Auction, Raffles,
Dancing and Music!

Charlottesville Catholic
School presents the

2025 GALA AUCTION

DEADLINE

**TICKET SALES CLOSE NEXT FRIDAY
REGISTER BY APRIL 18TH!**



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