



Charlottesville Catholic School

Friday Newsletter

Middle School

- Performance Series testing will take place during math and literature classes on their block days. Math will take place next week on either August 31 or September 2. Reading will take place on September 7 or September 9.
- Monday, August 30, 2021 will be a Blue & Gold Day. Please see the handbook for guidelines.

Social Studies

6th: It's that time of year again, we are back in school! 6th grade began the week with a pre-assessment of their knowledge of early American history. Next week they will begin exploring the causes of the Civil War.

7th: It's that time of year again, we are back in school! This week the 7th grade began with background vocabulary related to social studies and a pre-assessment of their knowledge of 1850-1900 American history.



8th: It's that time of year again, we are back in school! This week the 8th grade began with background vocabulary related to social studies and a pre-assessment of their knowledge of world history.

Mathematics

Math 6 (Garland): Welcome to an awesome year! It has been such a pleasure seeing your kids this week. We started the year out by pre assessing the students' skills so I know, ability wise, where they are coming into the class. We started our first informational section refreshing skills of rounding, place value, and standard/expanded form of numbers. This will pave the way for the sharpening of adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing skills, placing emphasis on the showing of structured work by hand.

Pre-Algebra (Garland): Welcome to an awesome year! It has been such a pleasure seeing your kids this week. We started the year out by pre assessing the students' skills so I know, ability wise, where they are coming into the class. We started our first informational section learning about integers and absolute values. This will pave the way for fraction

operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division), which goes through next week.

Geometry (Garland): Welcome to an awesome year! It has been such a pleasure seeing your kids this week. We started the year out by pre assessing the students' skills so I know, ability wise, where they are coming into the class. We started our first informational section investigating patterns. This will pave the way for conditional statements and logic. A logic project will be assigned and is due on September 8th. Students will come home with details and a rubric next week.

Math 7 (DeVane): Welcome to 7th grade math! It is so wonderful to see everyone again and meet our new students. I am looking forward to a great year with all of your students. This week, we introduced group work and presenting. Students had to make their own graphs with two comparisons. A favorite topic was ice cream, plotting favorites and best tasting. Students also took a pre-assessment to help me see what they remember from last year or may already know. This tool will help me to know what topics are already mastered by students. Next week, we will review some of last year's topics and have a quiz on Friday.

Algebra (DeVane): Welcome to Algebra! It is so wonderful to see everyone again and meet our new students. I am looking forward to a great year with all of your students. This week, we looked at the computer programs that will be used most often in class (Desmos and Delta Math). We also looked at showing our thoughts visually, numerically, orally, and algebraically. Next week, we will take a pre-assessment to help me see what they remember from last year or may already know. This tool will help me to know what topics are already mastered by students.

Language Composition and Literature

6th (Fallica): Welcome to 6th grade Literature! I have thoroughly enjoyed our first few days together. We are going to have a fantastic year! This week we spent time getting our binders and our materials organized. We turned in our summer reading assignments and completed our first writing prompt. Additionally, students were assigned their first Independent Reading Activity which is due September 21st. Next week we will review story elements, take a story elements quiz, and begin our first novel *A Long Way from Chicago*.

6th: This has been a really nice week getting to know each other. Our class time was pretty short, but I did learn that everyone was tired out by Thursday afternoon when I had class with them. We talked about our daily class procedures and completed a "daily maintenance" exercise. This included the first diagram of the year. Next week we will discuss the parts of a sentence (to make diagramming sentences easier) and introduce the first vocabulary unit.

7th: Welcome to 7th grade literature and composition! I am assessing grammar, writing, and reading skills this week. Binders have been set up, and everyone is ready for a productive and exciting year. We will begin our first short story this week. Students are to have a book (for the first IRA) with them at all times in my classes, beginning Monday. The

first IRA is due September 21st, and directions for the assignment will be in Google classroom by this coming Monday. All students are to purchase a copy of *The Giver* (ISBN number in Google classroom) by September 7. They must bring this book to class on that day.

8th: Welcome to 8th grade literature and composition! I am assessing grammar, writing, and reading skills this week. Binders have been set up, and everyone is ready for a productive and exciting year. We will begin our first short story this week. Students are to have a book (for the first IRA) with them at all times in my classes, beginning Monday. The first IRA is due September 21st, and directions for the assignment will be in Google classroom by this coming Monday. All students are to purchase a copy of *Brown Girl Dreaming* (ISBN number in Google classroom) by September 7. They must bring this book to class on that day.

Religion

6th: I am so excited to see some familiar faces in the MS hallway! We began the year by reviewing the parts of mass to prepare for our weekly Friday masses, which will begin next week. I also introduced the students to the word “apologetics” and equipped them with a few answers to common misconceptions of the Catholic faith. Next week, we will study the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy and review the requirements for their quarterly service logs. We will also begin our weekly chapel time and talk about God’s revelation through Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition.

7th: It has been such a pleasure to meet all of the students this week! We began the year by reviewing the parts of mass to prepare for our weekly Friday masses, which will begin next week. I also introduced the students to the word “apologetics” and equipped them with a few answers to common misconceptions of the Catholic faith. Next week, we will study the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy and review the requirements for their quarterly service logs. We will also begin our weekly chapel time and talk about God’s revelation through Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition.

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Science

6th: Welcome to middle school! We started with lab safety this week and started to discuss the tools and techniques of scientists. Next week we will continue to set a baseline for lab behavior as well as to review some of the ways we measure in science as well as how we determine the best units of measurement.

7th: Welcome back! This week we discussed lab safety and the importance of following a recipe. We also practiced using glassware for chemistry as well as behaviors within the lab. Next week we will continue to practice becoming familiar with the tools and techniques of a chemist.

8th: Welcome back! We started with lab safety this week and had a chance to practice using the tools in the lab. We used some glassware to practice measuring liquids. Next week we will continue to review scientific units and investigate early astronomers.

Spanish

8th Grade Spanish class: Bienvenidos a la clase de Español! I am so excited for this year and have really enjoyed getting to know the wonderful students of 8th grade! We spent the first few classes gauging our knowledge of Spanish, learning how to introduce ourselves and using different greetings/goodbyes. Next week we will also work with cognates. Cognates will help students transition into learning a new language and will build their confidence and vocabulary. Additionally, we will learn the Spanish alphabet and the sounds each letter makes. This will build a strong foundation of the Spanish language and aid students with pronunciation. Next Friday students will have a short quiz on greetings and goodbyes.