



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

# Charlottesville Catholic School

## Friday, 9/13/24, Newsletter

### Middle School

We had another great week in Middle School. Please remember middle school students will not have school on Friday, September 20th. Not only is this Mr. Garland's 50th Birthday 😊, it is conference day for 6th grade families as well as those families new to CCS. JK-5th grade will have an 11:30am dismissal that day. Conference Sign-ups for new parents and 6th graders have been emailed to parents.

#### **Important School-wide Announcements:**

- Parents, Blue and Gold Days, as well as free dress days, can be tricky due to our standards for modesty and a tidy appearance (please visit the uniform policy). The Spirit Store can help out by providing school appropriate options that are also festive and filled with school spirit. [The online store can be found here](#). –Thank you, Mrs. Fallica
- Friday, September 20th, school will be closed to Middle School Students for 6th Grade and New Middle School Families(JK - 5th grade will have an 11:30 dismissal).
- Join us for an afternoon of family fun and games at the Fall Fest on Sunday afternoon, October 6. CCS Fields will be filled with plenty of fun activities to enjoy with friends and meet new families. Featuring a bounce house, hay ride, traditional fall activities, favorite yard games, some tasty treats and even a chance to dunk some CCS staff, this event should not be missed. [Tickets now available](#) for \$5 per person / \$20 per family of 4 or more.

#### **Important Announcements for Middle School:**

- By now, you should have received instructions on how to sign up for 2 slots for parent teacher conferences on Friday, September 20th. Please remember, that only 6th grade families or those who are new to CCS are the only ones that have conferences this day. 7th and 8th grade conferences will be in November.
- Middle school students participating in this coming Thursday's FANS event will depart school around 1:45pm and arrive back to CCS at 6:15pm. Please note that rides need to be present at school no later than 6:15pm to get kids home. (Please wish Mrs. Kerrigan a Happy Birthday on this day)

Here are some dates that you will find useful:

- 9/19(Thurs): Middle School FANS event at Massanutten Water Park.
- **9/20(Friday): Middle School will not be in session due to 6th Grade/New Family conferences (please note that JK - 5 will have an 11:30am dismissal that day)**
- Yearbook photos for 6th grade will be on Tuesday, September 24th
- Yearbook photos for 7th and 8th grade will be on Tuesday, October 1st

### **Service Opportunities:**

- Friends of the Poor Walk

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is an international organization of lay Catholics following Christ's call to serve the poor. In 2023 the local chapter assisted 233 households with 450 family members with expenses such as rent, utilities, and emergency funds. Their annual walk is taking place Saturday, September 21, at Church of the Incarnation. The day begins with mass, registration, the walk, and lunch. They would love for students to volunteer to help with registration and lunch clean up. Students are welcome to participate in the walk and mass as well. Volunteers should check in with Mark Ross.

This is a four-hour commitment and can be used for community and church service. Sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040C44ACAA2DA31-51334373-friends>

- Lifespring Pregnancy Center Dinner

There are two opportunities to help the Lifespring Pregnancy Center with their dinner. They need help setting up on Thursday, September 19, from 2-5 (this may be an option for students not attending the FANS event). They are also looking for help with clean up on Friday, September 20 at around 8:30 pm. The event will take place at First Baptist Church on Park Street in Charlottesville. Please reach out to Mrs. Anna Sisman at [anna.sisman@gmail.com](mailto:anna.sisman@gmail.com) if you would like to help or have any questions.

- One of our middle school parents has organized two wonderful opportunities for students to receive church and/or community service. Please note that middle school students have a service hour commitment for church and community each quarter of the school year and this is a great way to take care of this. You may use the following links to find out information/sign up for time slots:

[Baking for First Presbyterian Church](#)

[Baking for Holy Comforter Church](#)

- CCS Mass Choir: Attention all 3rd through 8th grade students! Do you like to sing? Join us for Mass choir on Tuesday mornings to help provide beautiful music for our liturgies. Students may sign up for as many weeks as they would like. More information can be found on the Sign Up Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040C44ACAA2DA31-50743257-mass#/>

## Social Studies - [r.hendrick@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:r.hendrick@cvillecatholic.org)

---

6th Grade US History: This week the 6th graders finished their Causes of the Civil War Unit. Next week they will move into an exploration of the actual conflict and the leaders on each side.

7th Grade US History: This week the 7th graders made silent movies in the style of the 1920s. Next week they will have their 1920s Unit Test on Friday.



8th Grade World History: This week the 8th graders learned about Mesopotamia and the birth of civilization. Next week they will need an orange so they can mummify it in class as they begin their Egypt sub unit.

## Mathematics - [j.garland@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:j.garland@cvillecatholic.org) & [j.reid@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:j.reid@cvillecatholic.org)

---

Math 6 (Garland): This past week, the students tested on Unit 1, Whole Numbers and Operations. This coming week, we will get into Integer Addition by offering visual techniques for adding positive and negative numbers to foster and develop the formal rules associated with these calculations.

Pre-Algebra (Garland): This past week, we quizzed on exponents, square/cube roots, and scientific notation. This coming week, we put these skills to use by exploring GEMDAS. This is an acronym for the order of operations. In earlier grades, students may have been taught PEMDAS (Parenthesis, Exponents, Multiplication/Division, and then Addition/Subtraction). A higher level of understanding comes into play with GEMDAS, because parenthesis are not the only types of grouping mechanisms in math class. We use brackets, absolute values, numerators and denominators of fractions, etc.

Geometry (Garland): This past week, we explored Geometric Transformations, by first looking at Rotations and Dilations, by using the Superman "S". This week, we will derive the formalized rules of Geometric Transformations. My hope is to assess these skills with a take-home test given on Monday, September 23rd.

Math 7 (Reid): This week the kids took their 1st test of the year on Integers! They worked really hard and are definitely starting to understand the "other side" of the number line 😊 We also started to talk about the coordinate plane and all of its parts. Next week we will dive into order of operations (GEMDAS) with integers. Please ask your child on Monday afternoon if they received a printout of missing work in FACTS. I give each student an individual printout of anything that is missing in FACTS and it has an A (Absent), M (Missing), I (Incomplete), P (Pending - needs to come talk to me and fix some things). Some of the

kids have been great about taking care of these the last 2 weeks, and others need to work on that. I am here to help kids during PREP, before or after school, lunch and recess.

Algebra (Reid): This week the kids took their 1st test of the year on Algebraic Expressions & Properties! They have been working really hard and I am proud of them 😊 They also started solving equations and being purposeful with their steps in solving. Next week, they will solve equations with some “different” types of answers and then we will solve inequalities and talk about what it means to start graphing our answers. Please ask your child on Monday afternoon if they received a printout of missing work in FACTS. I give each student an individual printout of anything that is missing in FACTS and it has an A (Absent), M (Missing, I (Incomplete), P (Pending - needs to come talk to me and fix some things). Some of the kids have been great about taking care of these the last 2 weeks, and others need to work on that. I am here to help kids during PREP, before or after school, lunch and recess.

## Composition, Literature, and Language Arts -

[r.hernandez@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:r.hernandez@cvillecatholic.org) & [e.kerrigan@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:e.kerrigan@cvillecatholic.org)

---

6th Grade English Composition (Kerrigan): There is a test and a quiz next week. On Monday, there is a quiz on subjects, predicates and types of sentences, then we will be spending time writing and making comics using our recent vocabulary words. On Thursday, there is a vocabulary test on lessons 1-3 in *Vocabulary Power Plus*. Students should use their quizzes to study for the VPP test, and their class notes to study for the grammar quiz. There are also helpful videos online.

6th Grade Literature Vocabulary (Kerrigan): Today we wrapped up our unit on short stories with a test, and next week we will begin an introduction to our first class novel, *A Long Way from Chicago*. In conjunction with this, we will be doing a slide project on culture from the 1930s. And finally, **IRAs are due Tuesday!** These count as test grades. Instructions are on Google Classroom.

7th Literature/Vocab (Hernandez): This week, we continued our work on Bradbury's speculative fiction with an analysis of “All Summer in a Day” and “The Veldt.” We talked about how the author uses speculative scenarios to warn his readers about complacency, moral decay, and overreliance on technology. Students were tested on their ability to compare themes in the two stories. We finish up Bradbury stories with “The Lake” and “Jack-in-the-Box” and move on to *Dandelion Wine* after the interim. We will also spend time working on the IRA which is due **this coming Tuesday the 17th.**

8th Literature/Vocab (Hernandez): This week, 8th graders worked hard on their first narrative writing project. Students were challenged to reflect on personal memories using food, plants, and animals as their inspiration. We also continued our analysis of Flannery O'Connor's ironic essay, “The King of the Birds.” Next week, we move on to sports narratives. We will also spend time working on the IRA which is due **this coming Tuesday the 17th.**

## Theology– [d.mehl@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:d.mehl@cvillecatholic.org)

---

6th(Mehl): This week we continued our focus on prayer. We worked on learning the *Memorare* prayer by heart, both out loud and in writing. We practiced Mass responses, discussed types of prayer in light of specific passages of the Psalms, and spent a considerable amount of time looking at readings both from the Tuesday Mass and from the Sunday Mass. We finished the week with a test on Chapter 46 of *Catholic Connections*, which looks at models of prayer in the Bible. Next week we will start learning how to pray the Rosary and will also focus on the *Our Father* as a model of prayer.

7th(Mehl): This week we continued our focus on prayer. We worked on learning the *Anima Christi* prayer by heart, both out loud and in writing. We practiced Mass responses, discussed types of prayer in light of specific passages of the Psalms, and spent a considerable amount of time looking at readings both from the Tuesday Mass and from the Sunday Mass. We finished the week with a test on Chapter 46 of *Catholic Connections*, which looks at models of prayer in the Bible. Next week we will start learning how to pray the Rosary and will also focus on the *Our Father* as a model of prayer.

8th(Mehl): This week we continued our focus on prayer. We worked on learning the *Apostles' Creed* by heart, both out loud and in writing. We practiced Mass responses, discussed types of prayer in light of specific passages of the Psalms, and spent a considerable amount of time looking at readings both from the Tuesday Mass and from the Sunday Mass, with a specific focus on the allegorical understanding of the Old Testament, and began our practice of the Rosary. Each week during October, the 8th grade will be leading the school in praying the Rosary. We finished the week with a test on Chapter 46 of *Catholic Connections*, which looks at models of prayer in the Bible. Next week we will continue to learn the Rosary and will also focus on the *Our Father* as a model of prayer.

## Science– [m.bruscia@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:m.bruscia@cvillecatholic.org)

---

6th Grade Life Science: this week we defined characteristics of life and organization. This included discussing cell theory and that the cell is the foundation of living things. We continue to explore techniques for using microscopes. Next week we will start with organelles.

7th Grade Physical Science: This week we discussed properties and classification of matter. This included understanding how to solve for density and understanding viscosity. Next week we will discuss states of matter.

8th Grade Earth Science: This week we discussed space tourism and our solar system. Next week we will work on our scale projects as we investigate planets.

## Spanish—[d.demaio@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:d.demaio@cvillecatholic.org)

---

Spanish 1 [Part 1–7th grade] (DeMaio): Para Empezar: “Telling time” Vocabulary related to telling the time in Spanish: (Es la una, Son las... y cuarto, y media, mañana, tarde, madrugada, mediodía, medianoche) among others.

1. Time Hour Quarter Half Lesson
2. Time after hour
3. Time before the hour
4. All the times

They were practicing telling the time, writing, and recognizing the time on clocks. They worked on various worksheets related to each topic. Next Tuesday they will have a **quiz** regarding telling time. They have a physical copy of this information to study and everything is also in the Google Classroom under the category "Telling the time in Spanish" They have a **homework** due date on Monday 16th on a worksheet that will help them prepare for the quiz. Next week topics: Partes del Cuerpo y en la clase (Body Parts and the Classroom) Grammar: Nouns

Spanish 1 [Part 2–8th grade](DeMaio): 8th graders continue learning by reading, writing, listening to and understanding information about the school day, subjects and classes, schedules and school supplies. Discussing and comparing classes and opinions about school. Grammar: Subject pronouns and Present tense of -ar verbs (conjugation activities).

This Friday they took a quiz regarding personal pronouns. They will most likely take their first test at the end of the month. I will give them the exact date next week. They have to check for **homework** too for next week.

Next week they will learn about culture and what education is like in other countries like Costa Rica. They will also do more practice of conjugations with the infinitive -ar. They will work on an oral presentation related to this topic.



Sunday  
October 6  
2:00 to  
4:00pm

# CCS Fall Fest

Join us for  
family fun & games

Bounce house, dunk  
tank, hayrides, fall  
activities, lawn games,  
races, contests, tasty  
treats & more!

*\$5 per person/\$20 max per family*

