



# Charlottesville Catholic School

## Friday, 9/20/24, Newsletter

### Middle School

We had so much fun at the FANS event on Thursday! (The kids had a blast as well). It was also such a pleasure to speak with 6th grade parents, as well as parents of new students to CCS, today. The middle school team truly believes in the phrase of "It takes a village to raise a child". We can't do our jobs without the support of families. Thank you so much for your time!! 6th graders will have their pictures taken this coming Tuesday. It is a Mass day, so they will be perfectly dressed in their Mass attire. Also, we have started working with 6th and 7th graders, in their language arts and math classes, using a program called "Edmentum" to foster individualized growth in reading and mathematics knowledge.

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

**Monday, September 30th, is our annual Golf Tournament. This is a great way to help support our school, financially, as well as participate in some fellowship activities.**

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

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

**8th graders only! SAVE THE DATE! Silent Disco in the CCS gym. November 14 6:00-8:00. Thank you to Monica Jordan for the donation of a lifetime!!**

**The University of Virginia's Society of Women Engineers is hosting a Middle School Visitation on Sunday, November 17. MSV is a half-day event where students interested in STEM can participate in lab tours, design and coding activities, and more! The application closes October 1st. Please make sure that all interested students complete the application before then.**

Link to application: [https://virginia.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_50jbqqDI8vIbb00](https://virginia.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_50jbqqDI8vIbb00)

Kimball Sheehan and Darrah Sheehan  
Middle School Outreach Chairs

**Yearbook photos for 6th grade will be taken this coming Tuesday. Yearbook pictures for 7th and 8th graders will be on Tuesday, October 1st.**

**This coming Thursday, September 26th, is our first free dress day for Middle School students. Mr. Garland always emails kids who aren't allowed to participate due to infractions. Emails will also be sent out to all students about what is allowed for that day.**

Here are some future dates that you will find useful:

- Yearbook photos for 6th grade will be on Tuesday, September 24th
- Every Thursday in October, we gather outside (weather permitting) to say the Rosary, at 8:05am, after homeroom
- Yearbook photos for 7th and 8th grade will be on Tuesday, October 1st
- Friday, October 4th, is our next Blue/Gold Day
- Sunday, October 6th, is our Family Fall Festival
- Monday, October 7th, school will be closed for a Teacher Work Day
- Tuesday, October 8th, we will not have Mass (students should be in regular uniform that day)
- Friday, October 18th, is the end of the 1st quarter AND students have an 11:30am dismissal. Middle School will have its first RAPS session. Reed Golomb and Patrick Drury will be speaking with our kids to offer spiritual/social guidance.

### **Service Opportunities:**

- Martha's Market is not just a marketplace; it is a community-driven initiative dedicated to supporting women's health and the fight against breast cancer. Last year, thanks to the tireless efforts of our volunteers and the generous support of our community, the Women's Committee raised nearly \$185,000. These funds were instrumental in providing 200 free breast health exams to women who are underinsured or uninsured in our community. We also continued contributing to Marianne's Room assisting more than 1,000 women with wigs, scarves, lotions, shampoos, advice and more during their cancer journey as well as funding the spring Fly Fling trip as part of the healing journey. To make this year's event even more successful, we need volunteers to assist with various tasks, including:

**-Set- Up:** Carrying boxes, unloading cars, and potentially directing traffic as vendors set up their booths. We have 45 incredible vendors who will be setting up between 6 and 9am. (Early, I know!)

**-Break- Down:** Assisting vendors with packing up, ensuring the venue is clean and organized after the event, and potentially directing traffic. Breakdown will take from 4 to 5:30pm.

**-Balloon Delivery:** At 10:00 we need a few volunteers to pick up pre-ordered balloon bouquets from The Party Starts Here in Barracks Road and deliver them to about a dozen participating businesses at or close to the downtown mall.

Volunteering at Martha's Market is a fantastic opportunity for students to contribute to a meaningful cause, gain valuable experience, as well as earn community service hours. Volunteers' efforts will make a significant impact on the success of the event and the health and well-being of women in our community. If students and/or parents are interested in volunteering, please have them reply to Kedra Houser at [kedra@frostmontessori.com](mailto:kedra@frostmontessori.com). She will

provide all the necessary details and ensure volunteers are well-prepared for the day. Coffee and donuts will be available to those willing to come in for the early shift!

- 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#/>

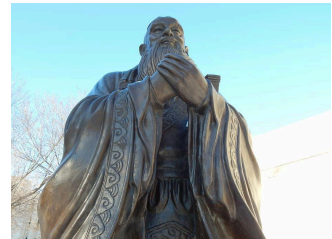
## Social Studies - [r.hendrick@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:r.hendrick@cvillecatholic.org)

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6th Grade US History: This week the 6th graders began learning about the Civil War. Next week they will be working on a project where they make historical "baseball cards" for famous Civil War figures.

7th Grade US History: This week the 7th graders practiced their essay writing skills and then began learning about the political changes of the roaring 20s. Next week, on Friday, they will take their test on the 1920s.

8th Grade World History: This week the 8th graders mummified oranges and learned about the ancient Egyptians. Next week they will be comparing and contrasting the Chinese philosophies of Taoism and Confucianism.



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

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Math 6 (Garland): This past week, we explored, visually, how to add integers (positive and negative numbers). This coming week, we will derive the formal/abstract rules of addition and subtraction of integers, based upon the knowledge students have gained.

Pre-Algebra (Garland): This past week, we focused on developing our knowledge of the order of operations associated with expression calculation (GEMDAS). This coming week, we will use these skills to start evaluating algebraic expressions. Students will also learn about real number classifications to fine tune their vocabulary.

Geometry (Garland): This past week, we finished up Coordinate Geometry Transformations. A mini-project on, Advertising Logos, was assigned this past Thursday and is due Monday, September 23rd. A take-home test, on Coordinate Geometry, will be assigned on September 23rd and is due on Tuesday. The rest of the week's plan is to get into terminology associated with Geometry (points, lines, planes, and angles) as well as firm up students' skills using a protractor.

Math 7 (Reid): This past week we worked on simplifying expressions using order of operations. At the end of the week we even started to combine our skills of using order of operations with our integer rules. This is an integral process to their mathematical skill building. I am so impressed with the kid's hard work and dedication to being able to communicate clearly on paper. If you've heard the kids talking about pizza this is what they meant 😊 We also did our first session with Edmentum. This is a helpful computer program that pairs with their MAP testing, helping to fill in any gaps in knowledge that may be there and also push kids to even higher heights mathematically. We will continue to work on Edmentum for 40 minutes every week.

Algebra (Reid): This past week we continued to solve different equations to include absolute value equations as well as equations that have "different" answers such as "no solution" and "infinite number of solutions". Next week, we will start solving various types of word problems as we approach our 2nd test of the quarter. The 7th graders also did our first session with Edmentum. This is a helpful computer program that pairs with their MAP testing, helping to fill in any gaps in knowledge that may be there and also push kids to even higher heights mathematically. We will continue to work on Edmentum for 40 minutes every week.

## Composition, Literature, and Language Arts - [r.hernandez@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:r.hernandez@cvillecatholic.org) & [e.kerrigan@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:e.kerrigan@cvillecatholic.org)

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6th Grade English Composition (Kerrigan): This week we wrapped up stories, comics, and a test on lessons 1-3 in our vocabulary book. We also started studying prepositions. Next week, we will continue our studies of prepositions. Students will be required to memorize prepositions through song. Verse 1 of the Preposition Song is due on Thursday for a recitation quiz.

6th Grade Literature Vocabulary (Kerrigan): This week we discussed the Great Depression with a nonfiction text in preparation for starting *A Long Way from Chicago* next week. Students have all had opportunities to check out new IRA books and should be reading at home for IRA #2, due Oct. 15. 6th grade has also been working on Edmentum, a program that gives targeted lessons on specific reading skills according to the level of the student.

7th Literature/Vocab (Hernandez): This week, the students worked hard to submit their first IRA of the year. They also finished up the Bradbury comparison test and completed a quiz activity analyzing the themes of another spooky Bradbury story, "The Lake." Next week, we will read our final short story ("Jack-in-the-Box") before starting *Dandelion Wine*. 7th grade has also been working on Edmentum, a program that gives targeted lessons on specific reading skills according to the level of the student.

8th Literature/Vocab (Hernandez): This week, the students worked hard to submit their first IRA of the year. They also finished up a discussion of Flannery O'Connor's essay, "The King of the Birds." We began reading and analyzing our first sports-related narrative essay, "Reasons of the Body" by Scott Russell Sanders. This essay looks at sports by examining the relationship between fathers and sons and how this relationship changes over time. Next week, 8th graders will do an analysis quiz on both texts (O'Connor and Sanders).

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

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6th(Mehl): This week we worked on the responses we give during the Introductory Rites of the Mass. We did an exercise of literal reading of Tuesday's Gospel. The students wrote out the Memorare prayer in practice for Tuesday's memorization test of the prayer, and they also started thinking about how they would illustrate it for an 8 1/2 x 11 prayer card. We started talking about the Our Father prayer, which is the topic of our next chapter of Catholic Connections. We will continue this next week.

7th(Mehl): This week we worked on the responses we give during the Introductory Rites of the Mass. We did an exercise of literal reading of Tuesday's Gospel. The students wrote out the Anima Christi prayer in practice for Tuesday's memorization test of the prayer, and they also started thinking about how they would illustrate it for an 8 1/2 x 11 prayer card. We started talking about the Our Father prayer, which is the topic of our next chapter of Catholic Connections. We will continue this next week.

8th(Mehl): This week we worked on the responses we give during the Introductory Rites of the Mass. We did an exercise of literal reading of Tuesday's Gospel. We went over again the prayers of the Rosary and practiced leading it, in anticipation of our schoolwide praying of the Rosary in October. The students wrote out the Apostles' Creed in practice of Tuesday's memorization test. They also started thinking about how they would illustrate the Creed. We started talking about the Our Father prayer, which is the topic of our next chapter of Catholic Connections. We will continue this next week.

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

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6th Grade Life Science: This week we started to investigate the organelles of cells. Students are working on a project in class. Next week we will practice staining slides for the microscope.

7th Grade Physical Science: This week we finished states of matter with a lab that focused on applications of identifying properties of matter. Next week we start with the atom.

8th Grade Earth Science: This week we investigated the scale of our solar system and students started their projects. Next week we will focus on planets and the life cycle of the star.

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

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Spanish 1 [Part 1–7th grade] (DeMaio): This week the seventh graders took a quiz related to "Telling the time in Spanish." They learned and did activities related to body parts. Expressions like "Me duele la cabeza" = "My head hurts" they learn new vocabulary related to the classroom. They practiced with nouns and differentiating between masculine and feminine nouns.

They also started learning the important and basic rules of the alphabet in Spanish. They did spelling activities in Spanish and oral recordings in which they had to spell their names.

Next week they will learn about the calendar and weather. They will also do a small project in class related to the calendar. They have homework for next week.

**IMPORTANT:** They will take their first Oral Test on October 2nd for class 7-1 and on October 3rd for class 7-2. This oral test consists of reciting the alphabet in Spanish, recognizing the letters, their names and sounds. Also counting numbers up to 59 and recognizing numbers. Their written exam will be on September 30th. It will include the topics learned during these first months: Greetings, numbers, telling time, body parts, classroom things and directions, alphabet, the calendar and weather.

Spanish 1 [Part 2–8th grade](DeMaio): Eighth graders finished with the topic "Tu día en la escuela"="Your day at school." They also took a quiz related to personal pronouns. They reviewed and practiced conjugating infinitive -ar verbs. They are working on their first oral presentation related to "My classes." **They will be taking their first written exam on September 30th.** Study guides and materials can be found on google classroom.

Next week they will review the topics ¿Desayuno o almuerzo?= Breakfast or lunch? and "Para mantener la salud" =To stay healthy. Grammar Present tense of -er and -ir verbs (conjugation) The plural of adjectives.