



# Charlottesville Catholic School Specialist Newsletter

## Important Upcoming Reminders

Date **October 21-29** Event **Scholastic Book Fair**

Library - Mrs. Banaszak [m.banaszak@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:m.banaszak@cvillecatholic.org)

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It is hard to believe that we are already a month into the school year! Your children have been busy learning how to; navigate the library, proper book care, and how to find books at their reading level. We are reading books celebrating Hispanic Heritage month, my personal favorite being a photo biography of Pope Francis!

JK and K have explored loads of Alphabet books. First and 2nd graders are learning about “perseverance and grit” through several true stories. We focused on the difference between Fiction and NonFiction with 3rd through 5th graders and many are deep in the first library reading challenge. Part of their “prize”, besides a BIGGER brain is their very own **super reader photo op!**



\*\*Please be on the lookout for **CCS Library Overdue notices**. While we do not collect fines, we are hopeful that the children may checkout books every time they visit the library. Please help your children to remember that the books should “Live” in their backpacks when they aren’t reading them.



Lastly, **Our Fall Scholastic book fair is coming soon!** This event benefits the library with ALL proceeds making it possible to purchase for the library collection. Thank you in advance for your support!

Mrs. Banaszak's version of The Yellow Tutu by Kirsten Bramsen



## PE - *Mr. Frazier* [a.frazier@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:a.frazier@cvillecatholic.org)

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### K-2

Continuing to work on gross motor skills and applying them to movement patterns. The use of pathway activities has been a great tool for us to use to understand these movements and how we can apply them. In my classroom, I have created a wall that states, "I can tie my shoe." IF your child can show me they can tie their own shoe or even my shoe (some kids have straps only) then I am giving them a shoe badge they can color and write their name on (I staple these shoe badges to the board in the PE classroom.)

### 3-5

We are continuing to review activities we are familiar with and reteaching movement concepts and patterns. Third and fourth grade are reviewing and learning the appropriate way to play 4-square. We do this by playing small sided lead up games before we can actually play a 4-square match between four people.

### MS

Middle school has begun their first unit - Invasion unit. We are focusing on understanding space and how we can utilize space from an individual standpoint, a teams standpoint, and an offensive and defensive standpoint. Applying spatial awareness skills is essential to any life activity, not just sport or physical activity. We use a series of physical activities to make decisions and use teamwork strategies to successfully apply spatial awareness skills and strategies.

### Rockwall/Climbing wall

The Rockwall is finally up and running. I still have a few finishing touches that I will be putting on over the next few weeks but it is functional and in use. It has been introduced to almost each grade level as of this moment. (see picture below)





If you like these photos, follow [@ccsarchangelsarts](https://www.instagram.com/ccsarchangelsarts) on Instagram for a more frequent look into the happenings in the art room here at CCS.

Hello!

We are five weeks into the year and every day is bringing new discoveries in the Art Room. New centers are opening to students, including Drawing, Collage, Painting and Sculpture (ask Second Graders about their “Hot Glue Licenses”!). We are continuing to practice procedures for accessing materials, documenting our learning in our sketchbooks, deciding when a piece is finished, and cleaning up after ourselves. Areas of focus have included what artists draw, color theory, elements of art such as Line, Color and Value, overlapping to show depth, and how artists come up with an idea.

Visual Thinking Strategies will be introduced in the next few weeks as students are asked to look at an artist reproduction and answer questions such as “What do you see? What do you think? How do you know? And What do you wonder?” We will be looking at many works by Hispanic artists during Hispanic Heritage month including Fernando Botero, Diego Rivera, Frida Kahlo, Wilfredo Lam, Pablo Picasso and Remedios Varo.

In the next two weeks, new families will receive email invitations to access their child’s Artsonia Account. [Artsonia](https://www.artsonia.com) is the world’s largest collection of student art, published by teachers and students from around the world. Parents and family can view the art online, maintain a digital art gallery, leave comments and order keepsakes featuring the artwork (20% of all purchases are donated back to CCS). I use Artsonia to provide parents with a look at their child’s art as it is completed as I keep much of it for an end of the year portfolio review and Art Show. One additional benefit of Artsonia I will be taking advantage of this year is the ability to add student Artist Statements written about their work. Please consider the option to purchase keepsakes with your child’s art on them, the money from Artsonia supports the student supply budget every year. This year I will be using the money from Artsonia to restock our ceramic glazes and clay supplies.

And one last thing! As the sculpture station is beginning to open up to students I find myself going through paper tubes and other sturdy recyclables very quickly. I would appreciate donations of paper tubes (toilet paper and paper towel tubes) and empty, flattened cereal boxes to keep the students supplied with materials with which to practice attachment techniques.

## Music - *Ms. Howard* [s.howard@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:s.howard@cvillecatholic.org)

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Hello, Everyone!

We have been very busy in the music room! Students are working on many aspects of music including steady beat, rhythm, and we have been able to start exploring high and low voices with silly warm-ups in the music room. We spent time talking about the singing voice, and what is or is not healthy for our voices. Students are really enjoying the turkey song, que bueno saber, and other games to get our voices, brains, and bodies in a music making mode.

Speaking of Que Bueno Saber, I love to celebrate Spanish Heritage Month, not just in September and October, but throughout the year. Be ready to hear about some of the old and new Spanish songs that we sing and play in the music room this year. It's going to be so much fun!

We are really getting into a wonderful bucket drum unit thanks to a generous gift. We have 5 gallon buckets ready to go for the whole class, drum sticks, and even some noise reducers/technique aids to help show how to play the drums correctly. Students are working on proper playing technique, playing together as a class, and will be creating class bucket drum compositions in the next few weeks.

Very soon we will be getting REALLY into the holidays and all the excitement that fall and the end of the calendar year brings, so stay tuned for some important and fun announcements. It's been so great returning to the music room and help students bring out their musical side. Each one is a gift to my classroom, and I am grateful for all the support and smiles (even behind masks) of an amazing community.

Musically,

Ms. Howard

## Spanish - *Mrs. Osteen* [j.osteen@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:j.osteen@cvillecatholic.org)

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¡Hola a todos!

It has been a wonderful first month of the school year! I have really been enjoying getting to know all of my students. Each class is so different and brings something unique and fun to the Spanish classroom!

In Spanish we have learned how to introduce ourselves and our friends with “me llamo...” (I call myself) or “soy...” (I am) and “se llama...” (They call themselves). We also learned to express how we are feeling with “estoy...” (I am...) and different emotions such as “feliz, triste, enojado, emocionado, bien” (happy, sad, angry, excited, and good).

We also have learned helpful classroom actions such as “levantense, sientense, escuchen, formen una fila, dame cinco, silencio” (stand up, sit down, raise your hands, listen, make a line, give me five, and quiet).



This week we worked on colors “rosa/rosado,rojo, anaranjado/naranja, amarillo, verde, azul, morado, marrón/café, negro, gris, blanco” (pink, red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, brown, black, gray, white) and how to say what color we like. For example: “Me gusta el azul”.

Additionally, we have spent time talking about Hispanic Heritage month. We discussed what it is and why we celebrate it. The students have had a lot of fun looking at the flags in my classroom and discussing the Spanish speaking countries. They are excited to decorate their classroom doors during this month and learn more about each country. If you would like to discuss Hispanic Heritage month at home here are some helpful links!

[About Hispanic Heritage Month](#)

[Videos about HHM](#)

[Books to Celebrate HHM](#)

[Ideas for Teaching about HHM](#)

[Ideas for Parents](#)

[More resources!](#)

**Hispanic**  
**Heritage Month**  
September 15-October 15

