



**Charlottesville
Catholic School**
Christ Community Scholars

Charlottesville Catholic School

Friday, 9/06/24, Newsletter

Middle School

We had another great week in Middle School. Thank you to the parents/guardians who came out to Back to School Night this past Tuesday evening. We really appreciate your time and support. It is hard to believe we are getting close to conference time.

Important School-wide Announcements:

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).

Important Announcements for Middle School:

A communication will be sent out, this coming week, on how 6th grade parents or those families new to CCS can sign up to meet with 2 of their student's teachers. If you are new to CCS, you should receive an instructional email this Monday offering you an "early bird" sign-up opportunity. If you are a 6th grade family that is not new to CCS, you should receive an email to sign-up for conferences a week from today. If you need to meet with more than 2, please reach out, individually, to those you wish to speak to. 7th and 8th grade conferences will be on November 14th and 15th.

Here are some dates that you will find useful:

- 9/19 (Thurs): Middle School FANS event to Massanutten Water Park
- Yearbook photos for 6th grade will be on Tuesday, September 24th
- Yearbook photos for 7th and 8th grade will be on Tuesday, October 1st

If you have not done so, please fill out the previously emailed Google form that will guide you through the syllabuses for each of your child's classes, as well as provide an overview of our merit system, which rewards academic and behavioral excellence. Please follow these steps:

- 1. Access the Google Form together, with your student: Click [here](#) for access to the form.**
- 2. Review the embedded Documents: Please read the class syllabuses (only for the ones in which your child is enrolled) AND the Middle School Merit System Document.**
- 3. Acknowledge Completion of this task: Confirm that you have reviewed the documents by submitting the form with your responses.**

Service Opportunities:

- Church and/or community service opportunities:

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

6th Grade US History: This week the 6th graders learned about the sectionalism that led to exalting tensions between the north and the south. Next week they will have their unit test on the causes of the Civil War on their block day.

7th Grade US History Part 2: This week the 7th graders learned about the shifting culture of America in the 1920s. Next week they will be making silent movies in the style of the 1920s

8th Grade World History: This week the 8th graders finished learning about the pre historical periods of the Paleolithic and the Neolithic eras. Next week they have their first unit test on Monday.

Mathematics - j.garland@cvillecatholic.org & j.reid@cvillecatholic.org

Math 6 (Garland): This past week, we discussed the purpose and steps of GEMDAS (our order of operations in math). This coming week, we will finish up our Unit on Whole Numbers and Operations by exploring Properties of Equality. We will spend our block class on Thursday, September 12th, reviewing for a unit test and talking to kids about how to prepare for this as well as timing on how to take. I plan on testing students on Friday, September 13th.

Pre-Algebra (Garland): This past week, we discussed the basics of exponents, comparing expanded notation for exponential notation and the properties of having 0's or Negatives as exponents. This coming week, we will get into square roots and cube roots, as well as scientific notation (viewing through the properties of exponents). I plan on testing the students' instantaneous recall of number facts on Tuesday, September 10th. The number

facts they will be responsible for are the perfect square roots of numbers 1 - 400 (a list of 20 numbers) and the perfect cube roots of numbers 1 - 1000 (a list of 10 numbers).

Geometry (Garland): This past week, we finished discussing Logic and Patterns. Please remember that logic projects are due this coming Monday, September 9th!! This coming week, we will investigate formulas for slope, midpoint, and distance. These tools will provide a great foundation for Coordinate Geometry. Towards the end of the week, we will explore Geometric Transformations.

Math 7 (Reid): This past week we continued our work with integers. We learned how to multiply & divide them as well as do multi step problems that involve our understanding of integers. At the end of the week, the kids got their 1st test review which is intended to help students prepare for their upcoming test. The test review is a blueprint as to what the test will look like. The problems will be different, but the directions, the order and the expectations will be **exactly** the same on both the test review and test. The test review will be due on Monday and returned back to the kids on Tuesday. Their 1st test of the quarter on Integers will be on Wednesday, September 11th or Thursday, September 12th whichever is your child's block day for math. We also organized our binders and any student who has a missing/late assignment received an individual printout of anything that is missing in FACTS. We discussed the procedure and expectations for missing/late assignments and how to turn those back in for credit/partial credit.

Algebra (Reid): This past week we continued working with algebraic expressions by translating them from words to symbols. We also spent time learning about the properties that allow us to simplify and solve expressions/equations. At the end of the week, the kids got their 1st test review which is intended to help students prepare for their upcoming test. The test review is a blueprint as to what the test will look like. The problems will be different, but the directions, the order and the expectations will be **exactly** the same on both the test review and test. The test review will be due on Monday and returned back to the kids on Tuesday. Their 1st test of the quarter on Algebraic Expressions will be on Wednesday, September 11th or Thursday, September 12th whichever is your child's block day for math. We also organized our binders and any student who has a missing/late assignment received an individual printout of anything that is missing in FACTS. We discussed the procedure and expectations for missing/late assignments and how to turn those back in for credit/partial credit.

Composition, Literature, and Language Arts - r.hernandez@cvillecatholic.org & e.kerrigan@cvillecatholic.org

6th Grade English Composition (Kerrigan): MAP testing technical difficulties on the part of the testing site allowed students to have time in class to work on their vocabulary homework and their IRAs this week. We completed lesson 2 of *Vocabulary Power Plus (VPP)* and began reviewing subjects and predicates for our sentences unit. Next week is a deeper dive into subjects, predicates and kinds of sentences. **Our Sentences Test will be on Sept. 17.**

Next week, we will do lesson 3 in *VPP*, which is the last lesson before reviewing all three lessons for the lessons 1-3 test. **The VPP test on lessons 1-3 is Sept. 19.**

6th Grade Literature Vocabulary (Kerrigan): We are currently studying story elements, plot diagrams and figurative language in the context of short stories. **We will have a test next Friday, Sept. 13.** Students should be prepared to identify the correct definitions for all of our literary terms and write two short essays on the short stories, "Eleven" and "The Treasure of Lemon Brown." We will spend next week discussing "The Treasure of Lemon Brown" and learning strategies to prepare for the test.

As a reminder, our first IRA is due Sept. 17.

7th Literature/Vocab (Hernandez): This week, we continued reading and analyzing Ray Bradbury speculative fiction stories. Students created a mood board with Padlet for "All Summer in a Day" and we started to discuss Bradbury themes. Due to a MAP systems failure, half of 7th grade took the test this week and the other half will take the test next Wednesday. We will still try to do an assessment next week comparing "All Summer in a Day" and "The Veldt." A study guide will be posted to Google Classroom and we will work on studying in class as well. Our first IRA is due **Tuesday, September 17th.**

8th Literature/Vocab (Hernandez): This week, we continued reading and analyzing personal narratives. We began reading Flannery O'Connor's essay "The King of the Birds." We also discussed voice in narratives and showing and telling sentences. I introduced our first narrative writing project, which will be due next Friday the 13th. Due to a MAP systems failure, half of 8th grade took the test this week and the other half will take it next Wednesday. Our first IRA is due **Tuesday, September 17th.**

Theology— d.mehl@cvillecatholic.org

6th(Mehl): The highlight of this week was definitely moving into our new classroom downstairs. It will take some time to get ourselves settled, but there was a lot of excitement among the students. It's a beautiful space. We took our quiz on the parts of the Mass. We also continued our study of prayer by reading Chapter 46 of *Catholic Connections*, which is on models of prayer in the Bible. The study guide, which the students filled out as they read through the chapter, will count as a quiz and will serve as the study guide for the test we will have on the chapter. We spent a considerable amount of time on the Sunday readings, so that the students could learn through example the four senses of scripture. We will continue with the topic of prayer during the next few weeks.

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Science— m.bruscia@cvillecatholic.org

6th Grade Life Science: This week in Life Science we continued to practice the scientific method and reviewed variables of an experiment. We also practiced microscopy with a variety of prepared slides. We started to explore how to prepare our own slides. Next week we will continue with the microscope and introduce Cell Theory.

7th Grade Physical Science: This week we practiced the scientific method and used glassware for chemistry labs. We introduced the concept of matter while investigating measuring while making Oobleck. Next week we will discuss properties and states of matter.

8th Grade Earth Science: This week we reviewed the scientific method and experimented with Tin Foil. We were looking for evidence to support the claim that Reynolds foil is tougher and better than other brands. Next week we will start with space vocab and our solar system.

Spanish— d.demaio@cvillecatholic.org

Spanish 1 [Part 1–7th grade] (DeMaio): This week, seventh graders learned vocabulary related to commands and classroom-related instructions. For example, "Atención, por favor"=Attention please, sientate por favor=sit down please... They also began to learn about numbers and how to give the time in Spanish. They finished their first project in class related to "Cognates" and also took their first quiz regarding greetings and farewells 7-1 on Wednesday and 7-2 on Thursday. Next week they will continue doing activities related to numbers, giving time, and introduction to the Calendar and Body Parts. In each of these activities they are putting into practice their oral, writing and comprehension skills.

Spanish 1 [Part 2–8th grade](DeMaio): Eighth graders continued to review the topic "Mis amigos y yo"="My Friends and I" by describing what they like to do and how to describe themselves and others. They also began with the topic "Tu día en la escuela" In which they will learn about school subjects and schedules, talking and writing about classes, school activities, likes and dislikes, among others. At the end of this chapter They are going to take a test, at the end of September. I will let them know the date in advance.

Grammar review: Infinitive verbs -ar, -er, -ir Adjectives, Personal pronouns.

In each of these activities they are putting into practice their oral, writing and comprehension skills.