



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

# Charlottesville Catholic School

## Friday Newsletter

### 09/08/23 Middle School Newsletter

**Important notice...the end of the interim period brings about middle school conferences for 6th grade and new middle school students. This will be held on Friday, September 22nd. Middle School will be closed that day because of this. Be on the lookout for a separate email, which will be forthcoming for conference sign-ups for new students. Another email will be sent out for parents of returning 6th graders to schedule a time.**

#### **Nurse's Notes**

If you have a child who is a new middle school student at CCS or in the 7th grade, you should have received an email about upcoming Hearing and Vision Screenings. If you would like your child to be screened, the permission form **must** be completed (link attached below). Screenings will begin toward the end of the month. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to [clinic@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:clinic@cvillecatholic.org)

#### [Hearing and Vision Permission Form](#)

This spring, the University of Virginia's Society of Women Engineers will be hosting Middle School Visitation, a half-day event on Sunday, November 12th where we invite middle school girls to UVA for a day of fun activities and exploration! Our goal is to give young women (cis and trans) and non-binary middle school students exposure to engineering fields and UVA's engineering curriculum through lab tours and interactive design activities. This event is completely free of charge, and we will be providing the girls with lunch. We have attached a [flyer](#) that may be distributed to students or other staff as desired. To sign up, please fill out the form at this link:

[https://virginia.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3vXSYxMPm4zJByK](https://virginia.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3vXSYxMPm4zJByK)

School Pictures: 6th Grade will have their pictures taken on Friday, September 29th. 7th and 8th graders will have their pictures taken on Tuesday, October 3rd. Students will be expected to be in their formal dress for picture day.

**School Syllabi** – If you haven't done so, please have your student(s) read the syllabus for only the classes for which they are enrolled. **Once read, please submit one Google Form, per student, found [HERE](#)**

[Pre-Algebra Syllabus\(Garland\)](#)

[Math 6 Syllabus\(Garland\)](#)

[Geometry Syllabus\(Garland\)](#)

[6th Grade Lit and Vocab Syllabus\(Hernandez\)](#)

[7th Grade Lit and Vocab Syllabus\(Hernandez\)](#)

[8th Grade Lit and Vocab Syllabus\(Hernandez\)](#)

[8th Grade Theology Syllabus\(Fallica/Bryan\)](#)

[8th Grade Earth Science Syllabus\(Bruscia\)](#)

[7th Grade Physical Science\(Bruscia\)](#)

[6th Grade Life Science\(Bruscia\)](#)

[6th Grade English Composition Syllabus\(Kerrigan\)](#)

[Music Syllabus\(Wisbey\)](#)

[6th Grade History Syllabus\(Hendrick\)](#)

[7th Grade History Syllabus\(Hendrick\)](#)

[8th Grade History Syllabus\(Hendrick\)](#)

[Algebra 1 Syllabus\(Reid\)](#)

[Math 7 Syllabus\(Reid\)](#)

[Art Syllabus\(Devlin\)](#)

[Health and PE Syllabus\(Frazier\)](#)

[6th Grade Theology Syllabus\(Mehl\)](#)

[7th Grade Theology Syllabus\(Mehl\)](#)

[8th Grade Spanish Syllabus\(Mehl\)](#)

[7th Grade Spanish 1\(DeMaio\)](#)

**Archangel Clubs:** We are excited to announce our fall Archangel Clubs offerings for our students. We hope to see our students engage in these opportunities so that Charlottesville Catholic School can continue to grow its after-school programming. [Click here for more information on current offerings.](#)

**Church Service:** St. Thomas is looking for regular adorers at the following times. Middle Schoolers can group together to go and pray together!  
<https://stauva.flocknote.com/note/22822369>

They are also preparing for the anniversary of the dedication of the church on September 20th. There are some times for adoration the evening of the 19th.  
<https://stauva.flocknote.com/signup/132489>

**Service Opportunity:** Looking for a great way to jump on Church Service? First Presbyterian is in need of bakers for their Soup Kitchen! Monica Jordan could use 3-4 middle schoolers per week to EACH make 24 servings (24 cookies, brownies, 2-3 cakes/pies of any type, etc) On average they serve 75-115 people per week! Please drop off at CCS front desk Monday or Tuesday mornings. Softer items are preferred (sheet cake, cookies, brownies etc) FYI - no allergy restrictions i.e. nuts/peanut butter items are fine. Items do NOT need to be individually wrapped nor cakes need to be pre-cut. For every 2 dozen/2 cakes = 1 hour service. Click [HERE](#) to sign up.

**Another Service Opportunity:** Good morning parents and students. Charlottesville Catholic School has set up dates for Middle School students/families to set up and volunteer, by serving coffee and donuts, at both Church of the Incarnation and St. Thomas Aquinas for church service. We have a date coming up in September at Incarnation. [On these volunteer days we ask that our students wear their formal dress.](#) You do not have to attend either church to volunteer your time to represent CCS. Thank you, in advance, for your consideration!!

[Church of the Incarnation Coffee and Donut Sign Up Form](#)

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

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6th: This week the 6th graders learned about the various compromises the US government tried to use to avert the Civil War. Next week we will take our causes of the Civil War test on Friday.



7th: This week the 7th graders began learning about the 1920s, specifically its culture. Next week we will look at the stock market at its impact on the American economy of the 20s.

8th: This week the 8th graders finished up their Paleolithic/Neolithic Unit. Next week we will look into the River Valley Civilizations of the world, starting with Mesopotamia.

## 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 started to explore GEMDAS, which provides an order of operations for evaluating expressions. Next week, we will finish our unit with Properties of equality. I plan on reviewing the Unit during Thursday's block day and Test on Friday, September 15th.

Pre-Algebra (Garland): We finished this past week working with Square roots of perfect squares 1 - 400 and cube roots of perfect cubes 1 - 1000. I am testing this coming Monday on the quick recall of these number facts. Students will use their understanding of exponents to work with scientific notation and develop more speed as they evaluate expressions based on the order of operations.

Geometry (Garland): This week, we will use coordinate geometry to help lay the foundation of congruent figures (based on slope, midpoint, and distance). We will also investigate transformations (translations, rotations, reflections, and dilations) and their rules. As a reminder, the students' Logic Project will be collected on Monday, September 11th.

Math 7 (Reid): This past week we continued to work on integer operations focusing on how we get the number and the sign for our answer. We developed the rules for adding & subtracting as well as multiplying & dividing integers. We also took the time this week to organize our math binders and talk about grades in FACTS, how to handle any notes that may be written on assignments and times when I am available to help kids who may need a little extra help in showing their work. I am available most mornings at 7:30 am and I can stay after school until approximately 4:15 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. If your child needs that extra help, please encourage them to talk to me, email me or you as their family please email me so we can set up a time to work. The kids will be

getting their 1st Test Review on Integers on Monday, September 11th. They will have their 1st test of the quarter on either Wednesday (9/13) or Thursday (9/14) depending on what day they have their block math day. I am super excited to see how well the kids do on their 1st test!

Algebra (Reid): This past week we were a little disjointed due to MAP testing and a short week. We finished creating our Operations Word List and learned how to translate verbal expressions into algebraic expressions. This is a skill the kids will use throughout their mathematical (and science) careers. We also took the time this week to organize our math binders and talk about grades in FACTS, how to handle any notes that may be written on assignments and times when I am available to help kids who may need a little extra help in showing their work. I am available most mornings at 7:30 am and I can stay after school until approximately 4:15 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. If your child needs that extra help, please encourage them to talk to me, email me or you as their family please email me so we can set up a time to work. Next week we will simplify expressions completely and we will be heading towards our 1st test of the quarter covering how to simplify, evaluate & translate expressions.

## 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 Composition (Kerrigan): This week we practiced our eight parts of speech with fun games, including Mad Libs, Bingo and even grammar puzzles!

6th Grade Literature (Hernandez): This week, we continued our short story unit with an analysis of Gary Soto's "The Jacket." We also took a short quiz on story elements. Next week, we will finish up our short story unit and prepare to test the following week. Our first Independent Reading Assignment (IRA) is due to be submitted on Google Classroom on Tuesday the 19th.

7th Language Arts (Hernandez): This week, we continued our short story unit with a discussion of Ray Bradbury's "All Summer in a Day." I enjoyed hearing the students' thoughts on some of the difficult moral issues in that piece. Next week, we will do a comparison with a second story by Bradbury for a quiz grade. Our first Independent Reading Assignment (IRA) is due to be submitted on Google Classroom on Tuesday the 19th.

8th Language Arts (Hernandez): This week, the 8th grade students did an amazing job analyzing a short creative nonfiction piece by Gwendolyn Nelson. Next week, we will read and analyze an essay by Philip Lopate and a memoir poem by Robert Hayden. If time allows, we will begin working on a writing project for our personal narratives unit. Our first Independent Reading Assignment (IRA) is due to be submitted on Google Classroom on Tuesday the 19th.

## Theology– [d.mehl@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:d.mehl@cvillecatholic.org) & [v.fallica@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:v.fallica@cvillecatholic.org) & [h.bryan@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:h.bryan@cvillecatholic.org)

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6th (Mehl): This week we completed the worksheet from the first chapter of *Catholic Connections*, dealing with Revelation, Sacred Scripture, and Sacred Tradition. We discussed the significant themes of the chapter and learned important definitions surrounding these key concepts. We recited and practiced the St. Michael prayer every day and then took a quiz on it on Friday. We read the Sunday Mass readings and discussed key elements contained in them. Next week we will start reading in the Old Testament, beginning with Genesis.

7th (Mehl): This week we completed a worksheet from a chapter of *Catholic Connections* introducing the New Testament. We learned how to define specifically words relating to the New Testament, such as “synoptic,” and began to talk about the differences between the four Gospels. We recited and practiced the St. Michael prayer every day and then took a quiz on it on Friday. We read the Sunday Mass readings and discussed key elements contained in them. Next week we will read the first chapter of Mark and begin to make comparisons between the Gospels.

As an added note, Mr. Brucia’s 7th grade homeroom will be doing Mass this Tuesday, 9/12. Students have been notified of their roles, and we have been practicing these during class time.

8th (Fallica and Bryan): On Tuesday we celebrated the 8th grade at the Leadership Mass. We are extremely proud of them all and look forward to watching them grow this school year. In class we worked on our Apostle’s Creed projects, took a quiz on the Saint Michael and Fatima prayers, and discussed how we strengthen our relationship with God through prayer. We are learning about the importance of taking moments in our lives to raise our heart and mind to God - to pray constantly.

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

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All Middle School Students: I received the following communication to pass along. This spring, the University of Virginia’s Society of Women Engineers will be hosting Middle School Visitation, a half-day event on Sunday, November 12th where we invite middle school girls to UVA for a day of fun activities and exploration! Our goal is to give young women (cis and trans) and non-binary middle school students exposure to engineering fields and UVA’s engineering curriculum through lab tours and interactive design activities. This event is completely free of charge, and we will be providing the girls with lunch.

To sign up, please fill out the form at this link:

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The form will close on **Sunday, October 1st at 11:59 PM**, and we will send out enrollment confirmation on October 22nd.

6th: This week we completed the owl pellet investigation to uncover how scientists might need to infer if they are unable to make the observation. We visualized and practiced measurements and watched a video on a process that can be followed for science fair projects. On Friday we deployed the scope documents for the science fair project. Next week we will discover microscopy and practice making wet slides.

7th: This week we continued the scientific method and practiced creating an experiment where we tested the claim of a Bounty commercial. We also reinforced the difference between types of variables found in experiments. We cracked into chemistry with a discussion of matter and mixtures. And will continue next week with properties of matter. We will test brands of ketchup for viscosity. On Friday we deployed the scope documents for the science fair project.

8th: This week continued our discussion on astronomers, specifically Georges Lemaître and learned how to use a website as a tool to uncover the relationship between planets. Students also worked on a vocab list of terms to be used in our Astronomy unit. Next week we will discuss the life cycle of stars and understand the history of various telescopes. On Friday we deployed the scope documents for the science fair project.

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

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7th (DeMaio): During this week the seventh grade students have been working on the project "mi pais Hispano-hablante" since in September we celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month. They are designing a presentation in Spanish which they have to display in class. With this they are learning about different Hispanic countries such as Panama, Costa Rica, Mexico, Chile, Honduras among others. They are learning, for example, about their flag, culture, climate, attractions, currency... Also in cooperation with Miss Wisbey our music teacher we are practicing a song in Spanish called "gotitas de amor" For next week we will learn to recognize where the Spanish Speaking Countries are located around the world (North, Central and South America, Europe and Africa) and also about their food and famous people.

8th (Mehl): This week we listened to our final meeting and greeting presentations. We reviewed for a quiz on this vocabulary and then took a quiz on it on Friday. We started listening to dialogues contained in our digital textbook and had conversations in class, in Spanish, related to these. We played a big Kahoot game, containing present tense -ar verbs, which are review forms from last year. The students obviously like games, and many of them showed solid understanding of these verb forms. Next week we will continue to push through early review themes of high school level Spanish 2.