



December 18, 2020

# INSIDE CHARLESTON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Teaching character, compassion, and confidence to the youth of West Virginia for over 90 years

Dear parents and students,

In addition to the havoc wreaked by the pandemic this year, there has also been division caused by a contentious election, economic issues, and racial injustice. Emotions are high and people are under incredible stress. It's easy to get caught up in complaining and criticizing. It's much harder to take a deep breath and to imagine what another person may be experiencing. Earlier this fall I visited the sophomore English class during a discussion of *To Kill an Mockingbird* and since then I keep coming back to the Atticus Finch statement, "You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view ... until you climb into his skin and walk around in it." Every individual faces obstacles and challenges even in the best of times. During this time of increased tension, it can be helpful to remember that everyone is dealing with something and often those challenges are private and carried internally. We do not know, though we may think we do, those internal struggles. We can acknowledge, though, that everyone is carrying a burden.

As Advent comes to a close and we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas, may we make the effort to be more understanding and compassionate. We can conclude the holy season of preparation by making the world a warmer and brighter place. May we take advantage of every opportunity to be patient, kind, and merciful. May we be true examples of Christ in the world. I share the prayer below that we prayed to start the school day one morning in November. It has been a source of inspiration to me this Advent, and I hope it can be for you too.

*Dear God,*

*I give thanks for the opportunities to love  
that present themselves in the turmoil of life.*

*Let us seek to make each other's wellbeing  
the object of our concern.*

*Let us seek to be present to each other's pain,  
bear each other's sadness,  
celebrate each other's success,*

*and allow each other's story to change our own. Amen.*

I wish you peace, joy, and health this Christmas season.

Warmly,  
Colleen Hoyer



**CONDOLENCES**-- We express our sympathy to our students and their families who have lost loved ones recently. May the souls of the departed rest in peace: Graci Smith's great grandmother and maternal grandfather; Georgie Abdalla's paternal grandfather; Marleigh Adkins' uncle; William Salutillo's paternal grandfather; and Raegan Stapleton's grandfather. Please keep these families in your thoughts and prayers.

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## ACADEMIC UPDATES

**SECOND QUARTER PROGRESS REPORTS** – Progress report grades for the second quarter closed on Friday, December 11. Updated progress reports will be emailed from RenWeb on Saturday, December 19. Please review these reports for specific information about grades. Are assignments being submitted (0 out of “points possible” is a big clue)? Are assignments being turned in on time (look for half the “points possible”)? How are your children doing on quizzes and tests? There is still plenty of time for students to improve their grades before the semester ends if they take a very serious approach to address deficiencies. Exams are scheduled for the last week of the semester, January 19-22. **The first semester closes on Friday, January 22, 2021, three weeks after we return from Christmas break. Upon our return in January, teachers will cover additional coursework, give tests (which will be calculated in second quarter grades) and administer exams which will affect the first semester average.** As of today, if students are not where they want to be (or should be) academically, time remains for students to improve grades.

**FIRST SEMESTER EXAM SCHEDULE** – As you know, this year’s exams have been postponed until January. The schedule for exams is included below. Please note that students will have 2 weeks of classes upon their return to school after Christmas break before their week of exams. During those weeks, teachers will cover new material, make graded assignments, and help students prepare for exams. The semester ends on Friday, January 22. All classes have exams and exams must be taken at the scheduled times. **If we have a two-hour delay due to weather, we will start that day’s exams at 10 a.m. and school will be dismissed at 1:15 p.m. If school is cancelled on any exam day due to weather, exams for that day will take place on the *next day the school is open*.** **IN THE EVENT OF ANY WEATHER-RELATED CHANGES, CHECK THE SCHOOL WEBSITE, WATCH FOR A PARENT ALERT TEXT, OR FOLLOW THE SCHOOL’S TWITTER FEED FOR UP-TO-THE-MINUTE INFORMATION.** Students should prepare for exams by reviewing past tests and quizzes, using study guides, rereading notes and homework/class assignments, reworking math problems, and so on. First semester report cards will be mailed no later than Friday, February 5, 2021.

6 <sup>th</sup> grade:	Wednesday, 1/20 Thursday, 1/21 Friday, 1/22	exams for periods 1 and 2; 11:00 dismissal exams for periods 3 and 5; 11:00 dismissal exams for periods 7 and 8; 11:00 dismissal
7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> grades*:	Tuesday, 12/19  Wednesday, 1/20 Thursday, 1/21 Friday, 1/22	exam for period 1 (7:45 – 9:15 a.m.); 2:45 dismissal exams for periods 2 and 3; 11:00 dismissal exams for periods 4 and 5; 11:00 dismissal exams for periods 7 and 8; 11:00 dismissal

\*Please note that 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will NOT take an exam in their foreign language or exploratory class. During that scheduled exam time, they will use the period to prepare for other exams.

High school:	Tuesday, 1/19  Wednesday, 1/20 Thursday, 1/21 Friday, 1/22	exam for period 1 (8 – 9:30 a.m.); 3:00 dismissal exams for periods 2 and 3; 11:15 dismissal exams for periods 4 and 8; 11:15 dismissal exams for periods 6 and 7; 11:15 dismissal
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## COVID COMMUNICATION UPDATES

**COVID EXPOSURE REPORTING-** As West Virginia and Kanawha County continue to experience a surge in COVID-19 cases, communication between home and school becomes even more important. To streamline communication efforts, we have created a new email address [health@charlestoncatholic-crw.org](mailto:health@charlestoncatholic-crw.org) to be used if you learn of an exposure of your student or a household member after school hours. Please use this email address to report COVID-19 exposures, positive tests, or questions. Please call the school office at 304-342-8415 and speak with an administrator if you learn of the exposure during school office hours.

**ABSENCES-** Virtual participation has been designed to support our students who are ill and to encourage students to stay home if they are sick so that we can keep our school community healthy. Planning for virtual learning, in addition to in person learning, requires significant time and effort from the teachers. Therefore, it should be utilized primarily in the cases of illness, exposure, or injury. **Students who miss school for reasons other than illness should contact a school administrator for approval prior to virtual participation.** Students who are ill with any symptoms should stay home from school. If your child will be absent from school, please communicate with the school office as soon as possible in the morning. You may email the office at [appointments@charlestoncatholic-crw.org](mailto:appointments@charlestoncatholic-crw.org) or begin calling the office as early as 7:15 to make us aware of an absence so we can prepare. Middle school starts class at 7:45 and high school starts at 8:00. Letting us know before school starts will help make the day go more smoothly for everyone!

**RETURN TO SCHOOL GUIDELINES AND VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION-** Students who are ill will remain out of school for 3 days with improving symptoms. A negative COVID test or documentation of another condition (eg. strep throat, ear infection) from the student's physician will be required for a student to return to school. Students may attend school virtually for the days they are home if they are well enough and the office has been notified by a parent prior to the student logging on. Students who are sent home sick during the school day will follow the guidelines for three days of improving symptoms and a negative COVID test or documentation of another condition to return. **Students who leave during the school day will NOT participate virtually for the remainder of that day. They may begin to participate virtually on their first full day of the absence.** If a student misses class due to illness, it is important that he/she touches base with the teacher **and** checks Google Classroom for make up work. Students should not assume that all classes will be recorded.

## SCHEDULING AND ADMISSIONS FOR 2021-22

**2021-2022 SCHEDULING FOR CURRENTLY ENROLLED STUDENTS** –Scheduling/ registration for the 2021-22 school year will start shortly after we return from break. Registration forms for returning students will be distributed to students in early March. At this point, students should be focused on doing their best in their current classes since grades and work ethic are important factors in course placement.



**NEW STUDENTS FOR 2020-2021** –The Admissions Committee has released its schedule for the upcoming school year. If you have other children or are asked by non-CCHS families about the school, please refer to this section of the newsletter. Please note that there are changes in our format and events to accommodate safety protocols for COVID-19. **Applications for all grade levels will be available online** ([www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org](http://www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org)) **after January 1, 2021. Applications will be completed and submitted online. Detailed instructions are available on the CCHS website.**

**Virtual Admissions Open Houses for Prospective Parents will be held via Google Meet.** Each session will include a meeting with Mrs. Hoyer and Mrs. Herrick and an opportunity for questions and answers. Times and dates are included below.

**January 27th** Virtual Admissions Open House via Google Meet at 9 am

**February 2nd** Virtual Admissions Open House via Google Meet at 7 pm

**February 3rd** Virtual Admissions Open House via Google Meet at 9 am

**February 4th** Virtual Admissions Open House via Google Meet at 7 pm

**February 10th** Virtual Admissions Open House via Google Meet at 9 am

**Week of February 15-19, dates and times TBA** – Virtual visits for 5<sup>th</sup> grade students; students will receive a virtual tour, meet Mrs. Hoyer and Mrs. Herrick, talk with a group of CCHS seniors, and “drop in” to sixth grade classes.

**Monday, February 22** – deadline for receipt of applications of students currently attending Catholic schools who wish to be given first consideration. Applications from area Catholic schools received after this date lose “first consideration” status and are placed in the general pool of applicants.

**Tuesday, February 23** - first day applications will be processed from students in non-Catholic schools

**Monday, March 1**– deadline for all non-Catholic school students to submit applications who want to be considered in the first round of acceptances

**Friday, March 12** – first round of acceptance letters mailed (for applicants whose files are completed by March 1 – applications received after March 1<sup>st</sup> will be reviewed periodically by the Admissions Committee and notification as to enrollment status will be mailed at that time)

**NOTE** – It is rare for CCHS to accept students as juniors and seniors. Only juniors and seniors moving into the area will be considered.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL UPDATES

**MIDDLE SCHOOL EXAMS** – All Charleston Catholic students take semester exams. However, they serve an instructional purpose for our middle school students, helping them learn how to study for and take exams so they are better prepared for high school. For this reason, middle school exams make up only a small percentage of the overall grade. In fact, sixth grade exams are included in the second quarter grade and do not count as a separate calculation in semester grades. Quarter grades provide a more accurate assessment of your child’s progress. Help your children prepare for exams by encouraging them to study over a period of time rather than cramming the night before the test. Also, to assist your children in doing their best, please make sure they have adequate rest and a good breakfast before coming to school each day.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**FREE MATH TUTORING**-- As a service to Charleston Catholic students, our school's chapter of Mu Alpha Theta provides free math tutoring. This year, the tutoring service will be done on Google Meet. If a student is interested in getting some free peer math tutoring, simply go to [meet.google.com](https://meet.google.com) and enter the code: CCHSMathTutoring. The peer tutoring is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30 - 4:30. Just drop in, no appointments necessary! Please note that students must join the meet using their Charleston Catholic email account and students will not be permitted to enter the meeting until a teacher has started it. If you have any questions, email Mrs. Griffith at [sarah.griffith@charlestoncatholic-crw.org](mailto:sarah.griffith@charlestoncatholic-crw.org), Mrs. Walter at [jean.walter@charlestoncatholic-crw.org](mailto:jean.walter@charlestoncatholic-crw.org), or Ms. Elliott at [sarah.elliott@charlestoncatholic-crw.org](mailto:sarah.elliott@charlestoncatholic-crw.org).

## FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

**PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES** – Many thanks to all of the parents who scheduled time to meet with their children’s teachers on our first virtual conference day last month. Though it was a long day for teachers, conferences are an important means of collaboration and partnership between home and school. Communication and working together to support our young people are critical. This year, teachers held a remarkable 1,166 appointments during conference time. Wow!

**SCHOOL SPIRIT SHOP**— Spirit wear will remain available even after the holidays! We have a variety of gear ranging from ball caps, scarves and hats (photos below!), and canvas totes. If you are interested in ordering any spirit wear, call the school office at 304-342-8415 for an order form. Go Irish!



**VIRTUS**— Be sure you're on board to help! All parents or other adults who volunteer, coach, drive students, chaperone, etc., are required by the Diocese to complete the diocesan sexual abuse awareness training before being allowed to work with our students. Training is available online. To begin, visit the [VirtusOnline.org](http://VirtusOnline.org) and choose the online option. Allow 1- 1½ hours to complete the program. Print out the certificate of completion and submit it to Mr. Villers. It is still necessary to complete the background check and sexual abuse awareness statement which can be done by clicking on the link at the school website at [www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org](http://www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org). If you have questions, please call Mr. Villers.

**Adults who volunteer, coach, or chaperone, may be asked to update background and policy forms.**

**Background checks must be updated every three to five years depending on your role in the school. Policy questionnaires should be updated if they were signed before 2014. Current Diocese guidelines do not require volunteers to update the training portion of VIRTUS. Please contact Mr. Villers with any questions and to update your forms.**

**UNIFORMS**— Christmas break is a great time to check the “health” of uniforms. Check to make sure that pant hems are not frayed, that colors are not washed out, that uniforms still fit, etc. Please make sure that your children are properly attired when they leave home.

**PROOF OF ENROLLMENT FORMS** -- for drivers' licenses and permits may be requested from the school office using the [appointments@charlestoncatholic-crw.org](mailto:appointments@charlestoncatholic-crw.org) email address. Please put PROOF OF ENROLLMENT REQUEST in the subject line. Include student's full legal name (no nicknames), date of birth MM/DD/YYYY), and home address in the request. It will take two school days for the forms to be completed by office staff.

**APPOINTMENTS** -- We strongly encourage you to make doctor's appointments after the school day so that students do not miss valuable instructional time. However, we know that this is not always possible. If your child must leave school for an appointment during the school day, **PLEASE EMAIL THE APPOINTMENT DETAILS TO THE SCHOOL AT [appointments@charlestoncatholic-crw.org](mailto:appointments@charlestoncatholic-crw.org) by 8:30 a.m.** The student will NOT come to the office before 8 a.m. to get an appointment slip. The office will update this information in the daily report. If a student is being picked up by a parent/guardian, the parent will call the office upon their arrival and the office staff will call to the student's class to dismiss them. If a student is checking him/herself out for an appointment, he/she will come to the office to sign out before leaving. All students will need to enter through the new main entrance (double glass doors on Virginia Street, Commons entrance) when they return to be screened for reentry.

**RENWEB UPDATES**— We continue to use RenWeb as a valuable communication tool, so please make sure the demographic information you have entered is accurate. We use this data to generate address labels for any school mailings, as well as for email addresses which have become a vital means of communication. Please update any medical information that we need to have regarding your child as well. We use the Parent Alert Communication component of RenWeb for important messages, too, such as any school closings or notifications from the office. These alerts will come as a text message to your phone so it is also important that we have a current cell phone number.

**WANT YOUR PHOTOS IN THE YEARBOOK?** – This year has presented challenges in acquiring photos for the yearbook. We need your help! You can share photos of sporting events and practices, school & community events, or e-learning photos. Start sharing today! **Share images directly from your phone by downloading the FREE Yearbook Snap app from the App Store or Google Play Store and using school code: goirish**

Be sure to share photos as soon as possible so that our staff can integrate them prior to their quarterly deadlines!



**GLOVES?**—Our high school science classes would welcome the donation of rubber gloves to be used during lab work. Please contact Mrs. Arnold to coordinate a donation or drop off any gloves in the office.

**IF YOUR LAST NAME IS DIFFERENT FROM YOUR CHILD'S NAME** – please put the child's full name on all checks issued to CCHS and to any correspondence sent to the school.

**SOCIAL MEDIA-** Like us on Facebook ([facebook.com/charlestoncatholicwv](https://facebook.com/charlestoncatholicwv)) and Instagram (@charlestoncatholicwv) to stay connected with us on social media and see some of our students' activities!

**SAFETY REMINDER** – Our students feel safe and comfortable in downtown Charleston, which is a benefit of our location. However, it is important that they maintain situational awareness. They should be aware of their surroundings when walking to and from parking lots or to parents' offices or the library after school. It is important for them to be focused on what's happening around them and not lost in their phones! Students should travel in pairs or small groups when possible. If approached by adults who they don't know, students should get out of the conversations as quickly as possible and should avoid sharing any personal information. Please have this conversation with your children to remind them of safety precautions they should take.

## NOTES FROM THE ACADEMIC ADVISOR

- 1) **SAT and ACT** testing and registration information is available online at -- [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) and [www.act.org](http://www.act.org) (CCHS code: 490-205). All juniors should take each test at least once this year.
- 2) **Junior and senior parents** – if you have not been receiving Mrs. Herrick's updates about college visits, scholarships, etc., please email her at [andrea.herrick@charlestoncatholic-crw.org](mailto:andrea.herrick@charlestoncatholic-crw.org) to be added to her list.
- 3) **College Visits:** Mrs. Herrick handles college visit requests. Students should pick up the forms from her office and return the completed forms to her at least 2 days before the trip. Seniors are allowed 2 college visit days; juniors are allowed 2 college visit days. All college visits must be made before May 1.
- 4) **FINE ARTS/HUMANITIES REQUIREMENTS** – All students should submit their fine art/humanities critiques using the Google Form posted to their English teachers' Google Classrooms. Paper forms will no longer be accepted. If you have any questions, please contact your child's English teacher.
- 5) **The PROMISE Scholarship Application** ([www.cfww.com/promise](http://www.cfww.com/promise)) and **2021-2022 FAFSA** ([www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)) are now available; both are due by March 1, 2021. Seniors must apply by the March 1 deadline, even if they do not currently meet the test score or GPA requirements. The PROMISE application and tutorial link are available at [cfww.com/promise](http://cfww.com/promise). Students can contact the WVHEPC office with questions at 304-558-4618 or [PROMISE@wvhepc.edu](mailto:PROMISE@wvhepc.edu).
- 6) **8th Grade Parent Meeting** -- Mark your calendars for Wednesday, February 10th, at 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Herrick will offer a Google Meet for 8th grade parents regarding high school course offerings and requirements, the path to college and careers, including resume building, scholarship opportunities, and more. It's never too early to start thinking about your child's future.



## NOTES FROM THE PARENT VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION (PVA)

**All volunteers must be 100% VIRTUS compliant.**

- 1.) **Catholic Schools Week, January 31 – February 6-** Faith, Excellence, Service. CCHS will again participate in National Catholic Schools Week by lending a helping hand to community organizations. This year we are supporting six charities that make an impact on their communities with the help of our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Please mark your calendars and start stocking up now for any donations you are able and willing to make. Our \$2 dress down day will be Wednesday, February 3, and the \$2 donation will benefit Manna Meal. Below is the full list of charities and the items that they have requested. If any eighth grade parents would like to volunteer to help work that week, please call or text Cynthia Hemphill Reehling (803-242-5087). Thank you in advance for your help with this project.
  - Monday, Feb. 1 - Gabriel Project - Baby items**
    - diapers (larger sizes 3-6), Similac formula, wipes, baby food, Desitin, baby shampoo and lotion, bottles and baby blankets
  - Tuesday, Feb. 2 - Sojourners - Household items and cleaning supplies**
    - pillows, pillow cases, twin sheets, bath and face towels, plastic shower curtains, Pine Sol, bleach, laundry detergent, trash bags (30 gallon), dishwashing soap
  - Wednesday, Feb. 3–Manna Meal- Nonperishable food items and \$2 dress down day**
    - canned meats: chicken, tuna, fish, Treet, Spam, Vienna Sausages
    - canned beans, legumes, lentils, soup, peanut butter, and cereal
  - Thurs, Feb. 4 - Catholic Charities of West Virginia- Toiletries and cold weather clothing**
    - hats, scarves, blankets, gloves, socks, hand warmers
    - individually wrapped toothpaste and brushes, handwipes, toilet paper
  - Friday, Feb. 5–Risen Lord Catholic Church Food Pantry (Clay County)- Food items**
    - peanut butter, canned tuna, canned chicken, rice, dried beans, canned green beans, instant oatmeal, macaroni and cheese, pasta, soup, crackers, instant mashed potatoes, cereal, jelly, instant pudding, Bisquick, Vienna sausages, individually packaged tuna
- 2.) **PVA Polos and Fleece** - Order forms for CCHS logo jackets (including the heavier weight grey jacket and also a lighter weight black jacket, both in full zip and quarter zip), white uniform polo shirts, and green athletic/academic competition polo shirts are available on the CCHS website. For questions, please contact Kathy Atassi (304-415-0071) for jackets, Marilyn Ford (304-610-4243) for green polos, and Sara Frame (304-389-1241) for white polos. OFFICIAL UNIFORM POLOS MUST BE PURCHASED THROUGH PVA. Please note that students who are members of athletic teams and academic competition teams are permitted to wear an official CCHS kelly green polo shirt with khaki pants to school on designated dates – normally home games and post-season games designated by the principal.
- 3.) **Parent involvement** is a vital component of the successful operation of the CCHS athletic program. Parent involvement looks different this year than in the past. Your ongoing support and understanding are appreciated as we navigate the athletic program’s changing needs. Please continue to cheer on the Irish!
- 4.) **Athletic family passes** will not be available this year due to the ongoing COVID guidelines and limited attendance policies for athletics.
- 5.) **PVA packets** including volunteer forms and all ordering forms for logo jackets, white polos, and green polos are available on the school website ([www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org](http://www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org)). Forms are being accepted in the school office.



Throughout this pandemic, we have seen students striving to fill their community service responsibilities and we applaud their efforts. We want to continue to encourage students in these actions. At the same time, we recognize that it can be especially challenging to find service opportunities, while keeping ourselves and others safe. **To accommodate the challenges of the pandemic, service requirements for the 2020-21 have been adjusted and are outlined below.**

- 1.) Our social distancing measures today are to protect all of us, especially the vulnerable among us. The service that we often call “special needs” is service to those who are particularly vulnerable in our community. Mask-wearing, social distancing and travel changes are in-and-of-themselves service to the vulnerable. For this reason, for this year, students will only need to have one activity of special needs community service.
- 2.) Students may include acts of service for their grandparent(s) as community service. Calling or visiting grandparents would *not* be considered community service. Examples of service for grandparents are making a meal for them, shoveling their walk, or grocery shopping for them. There is no limit on the number of hours that can be earned in service to a grandparent.
- 3.) Service may be earned in as many, or as few, service sites are needed.
- 4.) For questions about community service, students should speak with their theology teacher or with Mrs. Linehan Belcher.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE AND GIVING

**CLAY COUNTY CHRISTMAS PROJECT**— This past Saturday, we celebrated our annual Christmas tradition of delivering presents to Clay County. While we did not have a Christmas party this year, we were still able to maintain the spirit of the project and to serve our neighbors. Stockings, food, and presents came into school last week as classrooms, the Commons, and the gym became corners of Santa’s workshop, and everyone in our community had an important role to play. Teachers bagged and labeled presents so that they would be organized and ready for distribution in Clay. A group of senior volunteers packed the trucks after school on Friday with food boxes, stockings, and gifts from CCHS, and additional food boxes from Sacred Heart Grade School. On Saturday morning, a small group of volunteers arrived at Risen Lord Church in Maysel to unload the trucks and organize the presents. Once everything was unloaded, Charleston Catholic’s volunteers returned to Charleston and the volunteers from Risen Lord Church took over to run the drive by distribution that took place on Saturday afternoon. Kathi Linkenogger organized her volunteers and worked to make sure that all families received their presents. She and the Risen Lord parishioners have partnered with CCHS for almost 30 years to plan and carry out the project. This year, the Charleston Catholic community reached 139 families with approximately 400 children, an important way for our community to serve our neighbors.

This annual service would not be possible without the support of the entire CCHS community, students, families, faculty and staff, and others. The true spirit of Christmas is on display when standing in a room surrounded by the wrapped presents, stockings, and food items that have been selflessly brought to school. We also thank the Sacred Heart Grade School children, their families, and faculty and staff who continued their tradition of involvement by providing over 150 food boxes for distribution to families at the party. Additional thanks go out to Dickinson Gould (CCHS class of 1995 and current CCHS parent), president of Buzz Food Service, for donating trucks and drivers (and for driving a truck himself!) to transport the goods to the party in Maysel. We also thank Sherry Shindle and David Hoffmann for all of their work “behind the scenes,” organizing and entering data, processing information on the children and their families, and preparing the lists that keep the entire operation moving smoothly both at the school-level and during the party. We thank Meredith Aubel for coordinating the logistics of collecting, packing and organizing all of the gifts. The commitment and support from the school community is what makes this project work.

**Thank you for sharing your blessings with the children of Clay County!**





**SUPPORT CCHS AS YOU SHOP**—Please keep Charleston Catholic on your gift list while you do your holiday shopping! It's easy to do!

- 1) It is simple to use the **Kroger Community Rewards program**, and it greatly benefits the school. To enroll, go to [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) and use the Charleston Catholic organization number **LH615**. Be sure you have your Kroger Plus card available when you register. Kroger Plus Cards are available at the Customer Service desk at any Kroger. To participate in the program, just register your **Kroger Plus Shopper's Card (as outlined above)**, use the card when you checkout, and Charleston Catholic will receive a check from Kroger on a quarterly basis.
- 2) When you shop at Amazon.com, the **AmazonSmile program** will donate 0.5% of your purchases to CCHS when you log in to your Amazon account using the address <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/55-0630688> (or by clicking on the link on the School Home section of RenWeb) to enroll in the program.

**HOPE 2021** - We continue to explore the possibility of offering our annual week of home repair with low income families next summer. We hope to have a better sense of whether or not we will be able to do so in January and will update everyone at that point.

## ATHLETIC UPDATES

**SPORTS UPDATE-** We extend congratulations to a number of fall athletes on their post season recognitions.

- **Boys' Soccer-** Earning All State honors: Wil Swan- All State Midfielder of the Year; Aidan Paul- 1<sup>st</sup> team; Zion Suddeth- 2<sup>nd</sup> team; Kelan Swan- Honorable Mention. Earning All Kanawha Valley honors: Wil Swan- 1<sup>st</sup> team; Aidan Paul- 1<sup>st</sup> team; William Ball- 1<sup>st</sup> team; Kelan Swan- Honorable Mention.
- **Girls' Soccer-** The following players were named to the All State team: Audrey Miller- Defender of the Year; Lindsay Carr- Forward of the Year; Bella Cinco- 2<sup>nd</sup> team; Hannah Rahin- 2<sup>nd</sup> team; and Vivian Delgra- 2<sup>nd</sup> team. The following players earned All Kanawha Valley honors: Lindsay Carr- Kanawha Valley Player of the year; Audrey Miller- 1<sup>st</sup> team; Bella Cinco- 1<sup>st</sup> team; Grace Litton- Honorable Mention; and Vivian Delgra- Honorable Mention.

- **Volleyball**- Congratulations to Hannah Casey on being named All State 1<sup>st</sup> team and to Chloe Clark for earning All State Special Honorable Mention.
- **Cross Country**- Congratulations to Aubrie Custer for finishing in the top ten at the State Meet which earned her All State 1<sup>st</sup> team honors.
- Congratulations to our senior athletes who will be continuing their careers at the next level:
  - o to Aiden Satterfield on signing to play basketball at West Liberty.
  - o to Audrey Miller on signing to play soccer at University of Charleston.
  - o to Aubrie Custer on signing to run cross country and track at WVU.
  - o to Lindsay Carr on signing to play soccer at Centre College.
- We are anticipating and hoping for a different, but exciting winter sports season. Please note the important date changes. Winter sports will begin on January 11<sup>th</sup>.
  - o The first contest for swim is January 15<sup>th</sup>. Regionals are scheduled for March 6<sup>th</sup>.
  - o Contests for girls' basketball, both middle school and high school, may begin January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Sectionals begin on March 13<sup>th</sup>.
  - o Boys' basketball games, both middle school and high school may begin January 29<sup>th</sup>. Sectionals begin March 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Middle school post season information has not yet been released.
- Check the school website for updated schedules



Go Irish!

**WINTER SPORTS**- Under Governor Justice's Executive Order 80-20, winter sports have been postponed until January 11, 2021. No practices or competitions may begin until that date

**VIEWING OPPORTUNITIES AND SPONSORSHIP**- Through the fall sports season, restrictions were in place, limiting fans who were able to attend. We are anticipating that similar restrictions may be in place when winter sports start. In order to make it possible for you to cheer on the Irish from afar, we are hoping to live stream as many games as possible. **We are looking for sponsors to make this happen.** Please email [jacob.nelson@charlestoncatholic-crw.org](mailto:jacob.nelson@charlestoncatholic-crw.org) for more information about sponsorship opportunities this year.

## HANDBOOK REMINDERS

**MEDICATION**-- Any student taking medication, prescription or over-the-counter, during school hours must report this to the school office. Students taking medication during school hours must have a Diocesan form on file in the school office. **Medication is to be given to the office staff who will dispense it at times designated on the permission slip.** All medications in the office will be returned to students at the end of the year. Medications are not kept from year to year.

**PARTICIPATION IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**— In order to participate in extracurricular activities on a particular day, a student must be in school for the FULL DAY on the day of the event. This "full day" policy includes appointments, so students need to avoid scheduling appointments during the school day. Students who have long-standing medical appointments, family funerals, or similar instances may be excused at the discretion of the Assistant Principal for Operations. Additionally, students must be at school for the majority of the school day in order to be eligible for practice. **Students are also expected to be on time on days following athletic events. If a student is suspended at school, that student is also suspended from athletic practices, games, etc. for the FULL DAY on the day(s)**

suspended (i.e., if a student is suspended for a Tuesday, the suspension includes involvement in any school activities -- sports, social, etc. -- for Tuesday evening also).

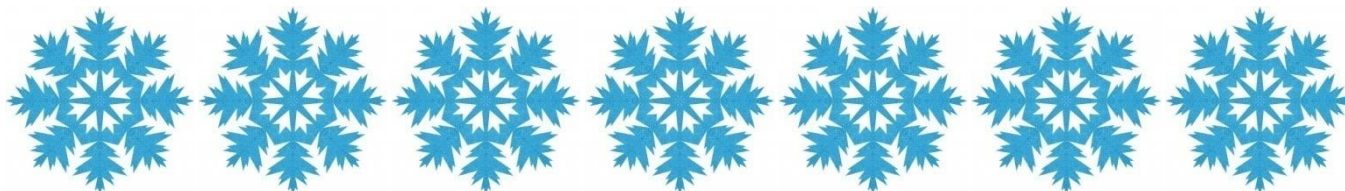
## MANY THANKS

- to the PVA for their many thoughtful gestures to support our faculty and staff. They have taken good care of us this fall with meals on Conference Day and this last week before break, in addition to some treats to get through the long days. We are sincerely grateful for you!
- to teachers and staff for their tireless work this fall as they restructure lessons for virtual formats and adapt to the back and forth nature of the semester. Their commitment to our students' growth is tremendous.
- to the guest speakers from this semester's senior Theology World Religions course: Abhijit Banerjee of the India Center in South Charleston/Hindu Temple in Dunbar, Douglas Imbrogno of the Buddhist Meditation Circle, Bill and Diana Mehle speaking of their time in Japan and Shinto, Rabbi Victor Urecki of B'nai Jacob, and finally, to Mrs. Ibtesam Barazi, Vice President of the Islamic Center of South Charleston. Despite the challenges of COVID, they gave students a personal connection to each of these great religious traditions over ZOOM and a glimpse of the diverse religious traditions of our city! We cherish our continued relationship with these communities.
- to all in our school community who supported the junior class on their prom fundraiser.
- to Bill Mehle; John Baird; Jacob Nelson; David Hoffmann; Ted Walker; Andrea Herrick; Molly Linehan Belcher; Meredith Aubel; Amy Arnold; Dickinson and Dickinson Gould; Bryan, Ericka, Ellis, Palmer, and Barrett Brown for spending a Saturday morning unloading trucks and organizing presents and food boxes at Risen Lord Catholic Church as part of our Clay County Christmas Project. Their hard work and positive attitudes made the morning go quickly and smoothly!

## SCHOOL CLOSURE INFORMATION

**SCHOOL CLOSINGS/DELAYS DUE TO SNOW/ICE** –We've already experienced our first snowy day and it looks like there are more on the horizon. Let's be ready! Here's a brief reminder of the CCHS weather policy. **Remember that school closings and delays are texted through Parent Alert, are announced on the CCHS website, and are tweeted through cchsnews.**

- 1) CCHS/SHGS will NOT follow ANY of the Kanawha County Schools' weather-related procedures.
- 2) Families may connect to the CCHS website or listen to the radio/television for changes to CCHS/SHGS schedules. The following stations will be notified by 6:15 a.m. if there are changes to be made: WV Public Radio, WCBS, WCBS-TV, WSAZ-TV, WOWK TV, V100, 96.1, and WKAZ. **The CCHS website will be updated, a tweet will be sent through cchsnews, and a Parent Alert text will be sent. PLANS FOR THE DAY (WHETHER REMOTE LEARNING, E-DAY, OR DAY OFF) WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CLOSURE.**
- 3) If no announcements are made for CCHS/SHGS, classes will be held on the regular schedule.
- 4) **If a two-hour delay is announced, classes will start promptly at 10 a.m.** The building will not open until 9:30 to give staff time to get to school. Please do not drop off your children before 9:30!
- 5) As always, if you cannot get your child to school for health or safety reasons, notify the school.



## CALENDAR

**UPDATED CALENDAR.** --Please use this calendar in your planning. Please remember that exams must be taken on scheduled exam days, and students who are absent more than 5 days in a semester (if those students have not been participating in classes remotely) will have to make up those days at the end of the semester. Please note that, as is the case each school day, teachers administer tests/quizzes, have assignments due, and teach lessons on the days immediately preceding and following school holidays. Students who take extended holidays run the risk of affecting their grades.

Mon/ Tues/ Wed, December 21-23	e-day learning for students (no live instruction)
Thursday, December 24	beginning of Christmas vacation
Monday, January 4	classes resume
Monday, January 11- Friday, February 26	Winter MAP testing window for 6-10 <sup>th</sup> graders
Monday, January 18	Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday- NO SCHOOL
Wed/ Thurs/ Fri, January 20-22	semester exams for all students
Friday, January 22	end of the first semester
Monday, February 1- Friday, February 5	Catholic Schools Week
Friday, March 26	end of 3rd quarter
Friday, April 2	Good Friday, beginning of Easter Vacation
Monday, April 12	classes resume
Tuesday, April 13	School day SAT for juniors
April 19- May 7	MAP testing for 6 <sup>th</sup> through 10 <sup>th</sup> graders
Monday-Friday, May 3-14	AP Testing
Saturday, May 22	prom
Thursday, May 27	Baccalaureate, in evening
Friday, May 28	Graduation and Project Graduation, in evening
Monday, May 31	Memorial Day holiday
Mon/ Tues/ Wed, June 7-9	exams for 6 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup> graders
Wednesday, June 9	Moving Up Ceremony for 8th graders



*Merry Christmas to all!*