



November 1, 2019

INSIDE CHARLESTON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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

Dear parents and students:

Last week I had the joy of attending the Catholic Charities Charity in Action Award luncheon featuring a video produced by four Charleston Catholic seniors and honoring three individuals for their work with Catholic Charities programs. One man spends countless hours tutoring adults as they prepare for their high school equivalency exam; one woman works with an Iraqi family of refugees as they adjust to life in America; and another woman distributes food to the hungry through a mobile food pantry in western West Virginia. Each of the individuals spoke about their service. However, none of them focused on themselves. They talked about the people they work with and the people who run the programs.

We also heard from Emily Robinson, the Catholic Charities West Virginia Western Region Director. She summed it all up in one sentence, "It's not about me." That was the impression I had of each of the honorees. Despite the fact that we were at a lovely luncheon honoring them for their service, they did not seem to believe it was about them. It was a refreshing message to receive. It is easy to get caught up in our individual joys and struggles and to only think about our perspectives. I appreciated the reminder to try on someone's shoes and consider their perspective.

Throughout this month that includes All Saints Day, Veterans Day and Thanksgiving, may we each hold fast to the idea that "it's not about me" and instead focus on others. May we use the inspiration of the saints as we cling to the hope that our simple actions will inspire others and that together we can put others' needs and wants before our own. May we do our part to serve.

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: Darby and Kieran Moran's maternal grandmother; Hope Linton's paternal great grandmother; and former Sacred Heart Grade School principal Terri Maier's husband. Please keep these families in your thoughts and prayers.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Academic Updates.....	1-4	Health, Safety, Driving.....	10-11
Upcoming Events.....	4-5	Athletic Updates.....	11-12
From the School Office.....	6-7	Handbook Reminders.....	12
Notes from the Academic Advisor.....	7	Congratulations.....	12-13
Notes from the PVA.....	7-8	Many Thanks.....	13
Campus Ministry.....	8-9	School Closure Info.....	13
Community Service and Giving....	9-10	Calendar.....	14
		Menu.....	15

ACADEMIC UPDATES

FIRST QUARTER REPORT CARDS ARE ON THE WAY – First quarter report cards were mailed this afternoon (Friday, November 1). Please take some time to review quarter grades, conduct grades, and comments with your child. Consider whether any relationship exists between behavior and achievement. Quarter grade point averages are included at the bottom of the quarter one column. The cumulative GPA is based solely on semester grades. The cumulative GPA reported on the current report card is a student's grade point average as of June 2019. Remember,

students must **have an unweighted 2.0 semester GPA (not cumulative)** in order to be eligible to participate in athletics. Freshmen and middle school students do not have cumulative GPAs at this time. Teachers have provided students with printouts that include details of first quarter grades which should offer additional information.

SET GOALS WITH YOUR CHILD(REN) FOR SECOND QUARTER ACHIEVEMENT— Report card time provides you and your child(ren) with a wonderful opportunity to discuss achievements and areas for growth. It is important to recognize the effort that students put in and to commend them for their hard work. However, it is also time to evaluate what didn't go as well as hoped. The information in the detailed gradesheets sent via RenWeb email and provided to students by their teachers this week is valuable. Do you see zeros or points recorded for one-half of the total possible? Zeros often indicate that an assignment/homework/paper/etc. was not turned in at all or was turned in more than one day late. Look at test grades and determine if study habits are working. Students should consider how hard they worked and what results they saw. Are they paying attention in class? Are they doing the reading assignments? Are they completing written assignments? Allow students to process what is working for them and what is not. Come up with solutions for areas of difficulty. Using this analysis, they are able to set realistic goals for the grades they would like to earn in each class this quarter.

STUDY SKILLS THAT MAY HELP YOUR CHILDREN STRENGTHEN THEIR GRADES – As we enter the second quarter, here are a few little things that can make a big difference. Please review this list and work with your children to make sure they're doing all they can (and should!) be doing.

- 1) Student should read the sections of the chapter BEFORE it is taught in class. By doing so, they develop mental hooks to hang information on during class presentations. Students sometimes consider reading assignments unnecessary- this couldn't be further from the truth!
- 2) Students should turn in ALL assignments. Often they haven't written them down in their assignment books so they completely forget they have them and fail to turn them in.
- 3) Students should take good notes in class. In many cases, they write down the outline a teacher has written on the board, but they don't fill it in with additional information that has been discussed or presented. Sometimes they believe that they can absorb the information just by sitting in class and listening. Research shows that students are more likely to remember information when they take notes in their own handwriting. Their notes should be meaningful to them and often need to be much more detailed than the teacher's general outline.
- 4) Students should review their notes before tests and quizzes. Similarly, they should use corrected past quizzes and tests as resources to review so that missed material is learned.
- 5) Studying is an active process. Staring at a textbook or notebook will not help students learn information. Try highlighting, making flash cards, creating graphic organizers, or writing and taking practice tests with the information.
- 6) Students must ask their teachers for help. If your child doesn't ask questions in class, then teachers will not know if or why the child is confused.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR – Teachers have established clear guidelines for students' in class and school behavior. Expectations for students – academically and behaviorally – are quite high, as they should be. Students with less than satisfactory conduct grades (i.e., N's or U's) on report cards will be assigned lunch detention or will lose off campus lunch privileges. Administrators will notify and work with students when such incidents occur and will set expectations needed to regain these privileges.

RENWEB UPDATES – Around this time last year, RenWeb merged with FACTS, the online tuition payment system. There have been ongoing modifications, name changes, etc. during this time period. The most recent name change is to ParentsWeb. ParentsWeb (where you login to view class details and lesson plans) is now called Family Portal. There should not be any changes to your access or usage, but you may notice the name change.

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 we are increasingly using as a means of communication. Please update any medical information that we need to have regarding your child as well. We are using 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. Additionally, teachers post dates of tests, quizzes, and projects in the

Lesson Plans section of RenWeb each week. You can access the information multiple ways: 1) Login to Family Portal and choose Classes under School Information. Click on a specific class and then choose the Lesson Plan tab to see the dates for each class. 2) Choose Student Home or Lesson Plans under Student Information and the week's due dates are visible. Assignments for each week should be posted by 8 a.m. Monday.



FIRST SEMESTER EXAM SCHEDULE – Although we've just finished the first quarter, it's time to start thinking about December's exams. **Keep in mind that we administer exams before Christmas, but the semester does not close until January 17.** From January 6 (when classes resume) through 17, teachers will be covering new material which will be calculated into the second quarter and first semester grade. 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, even if it means pushing exams to January 6. IN THE EVENT OF ANY WEATHER-RELATED CHANGES, CHECK THE SCHOOL WEBSITE, PARENT ALERT, OR 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 Monday, January 27, 2020.

6 th grade:	Wednesday, 12/18	exams for periods 3 and 2; 11:15 dismissal
	Thursday, 12/19	exams for periods 1 and 8; 11:15 dismissal
	Friday, 12/20	exams for periods 7 and 5; 11:15 dismissal
7 th /8 th grades*:	Tuesday, 12/17	exam for period 7 (8 – 9:30 a.m.); 2:45 dismissal
	Wednesday, 12/18	exams for periods 2 and 5; 11:15 dismissal
	Thursday, 12/19	exams for periods 3 and 4; 11:15 dismissal
	Friday, 12/20	exams for periods 8 and 1; 11:15 dismissal

*Please note that 7th and 8th 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, 12/17	exam for period 7 (8 – 9:30 a.m.); 2:45 dismissal
	Wednesday, 12/18	exams for periods 2 and 6; 11:15 dismissal
	Thursday, 12/19	exams for periods 3 and 4; 11:15 dismissal
	Friday, 12/20	exams for periods 8 and 1; 11:15 dismissal

MAP TESTING- Family Reports with student achievement information from the September MAP tests for sixth through tenth graders have been mailed with report cards. The Family Report provides details on each student's national percentile and RIT score. Future reports will include growth details. There is no growth data available at this time since this is the first round of MAP testing. Students will test again in February and May. Some details about the MAP test are included below.

How it Works

MAP Growth is a computer-adaptive test. If your child answers a question correctly, the next question is more challenging. If they answer incorrectly, the next one is easier. This type of assessment challenges top performers without overwhelming students whose skills are below grade level. MAP Growth begins with a question at each student's grade level and adjusts the level of difficulty based on individual performance.

What it Measures

MAP Growth uses a RIT scale to accurately measure what students know, regardless of their grade level. It also measures growth over time, allowing you to track your child's progress throughout the school year and across multiple years. Once your child completes a MAP Growth test, they receive a RIT score. The RIT scale precisely measures student performance, regardless of whether they're performing on, above, or below grade level.

The Results: Your Child's RIT Score

RIT scores have the same meaning across grade levels. If a fourth-grade student and an eighth-grade student have the same RIT score in reading, then they are testing at the same level in that subject. You can use your child's RIT score to help them meet their goals.

Common Questions about MAP Growth testing:

1. **How do schools and teachers use MAP Growth scores?**
Teachers can use the score to inform instruction, personalize learning, and monitor the growth of individual students. Principals and administrators can use the scores to see the performance and progress of a grade level, school, or the entire district.
2. **Can MAP Growth tell me if my child is working at grade level?**
Yes, but please note that MAP Growth scores are just one data point that teachers use to determine how a student is performing. Please discuss any questions that you have about your child's performance with your child's teacher.
3. **How often will my child take MAP Growth tests?**
CCHS will administer MAP Growth tests to students at the beginning, middle, and end of the school year (in the fall, winter, and spring).
4. **What are norms?**
NWEA provides schools with norms every three years. This is anonymous data from more than 10 million students around the US. Knowing the top, middle, and bottom scores of all these students combined allows teachers to compare where your child is to other students and help them grow. In addition to US norms, NWEA provides comparison data for private, English-medium, accredited international schools using MAP Growth outside the USA.
5. **Is MAP Growth a standardized test?**
Unlike a standardized test, MAP Growth is administered periodically during the school year. Instead of asking all students the same questions, it adjusts to each child's performance— giving a more accurate measure of what they know. Teachers also receive results right away, which enables them to react more quickly.
6. **What types of questions are on MAP Growth tests?**
The MAP Growth tests include multiple choice, drag-and-drop, and other types of questions. For sample tests, visit warmup.nwea.org.



UPCOMING EVENTS

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES -- If you have not yet scheduled your parent teacher conference for Thursday, November 7, please call the office to make your appointments. **Parent conferences for all grades are scheduled for Thursday, November 7, from 8 a.m. to noon; 1 to 5 p.m.; and 6 to 9 p.m.** There will be no school for students on this day.

Parents will meet with seventh and eighth grade teachers for 5 minutes and with sixth grade and high school teachers for 10 minutes. Specific organizational details are posted on the CCHS website (www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org). **PLEASE BE ON TIME AND BRING YOUR APPOINTMENT SCHEDULE WITH YOU.** Know that serious problems cannot be dealt with in five or ten minutes! Please feel free

to call individual teachers at school and talk to them on the phone if you cannot meet with them on November 7 or if you need to talk with them at length.

Teachers will begin conferences by asking you what you would like to know about your child. You will have just received the first quarter report card so your questions might focus on comments made on the report card, or on academic achievement, organizational skills (e.g., is child prepared for class, submitting work on time, etc.), or social aspects (e.g., getting along socially, asking content-specific questions, etc.).

MIDDLE SCHOOL WORLD CULTURES CLUB-- will meet Wednesday, November 6, from 3-4 p.m. in Mrs. Hurt's room. Cost is \$5 for snacks and supplies. The theme will be Mundus Cerialis with a Honey Cake (Latin). All middle schoolers are welcome! You do not have to be in Latin to attend- better yet an opportunity to learn about a different culture. Please e-mail Mrs. Hurt at jennifer.hurt@charlestoncatholic-crw.org by Monday, November 4, if you plan to attend.

QUIZ BOWL COULD USE YOUR HELP-- The Quiz Bowl team will be hosting a tournament at CCHS on Saturday, November 9, 2019. We will need student and parent volunteers from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. to help run the tournament. If you are interested in helping out during all or part of the day, please contact Ms. Summers at meredith.summers@charlestoncatholic-crw.org. In exchange for your help, students can earn regular needs service hours.

BASEBALL SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER- The high school baseball team is sponsoring a spaghetti dinner on **Sunday, December 8, 2019, from 4-7 pm in the CCHS Commons.** The dinner, prepared by **Niki Paterno Kurten** (formerly of **Paterno's at the Park**) includes spaghetti, salad, bread, and drink (non-alcoholic). Takeout is available. Desserts for donations are available as well. Dinner tickets are adults - \$10, and children (10 & under) - \$5. Tickets are available from baseball team candidates and in the school office. Please make checks payable to "CCHS" (memo line: Baseball Spaghetti). Enjoy a delicious meal while supporting our baseball program.



CHARLESTON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL SKI CLUB 2019-20 (grades 6 – 12) --

Ski dates: January 8, 15, 22, 29, & February 5 (February 12 make-up date)

- Optional parent information meeting - Tuesday, December 3, at 6:00 p.m. in CCHS library
- Mandatory student meeting – Tuesday January 7, at 3:00 p.m.-- Students will receive an overview of rules and responsibilities.
- Buses will leave school for Winterplace promptly at 3:30 p.m. and return to CCHS at 10:30 p.m.
- Ski Club members are expected to be on time when leaving CCHS and when leaving Winterplace. Students must be on the buses at Winterplace by 9:00 p.m.
- Please be on time to pick up your children. Buses drop off in front of Sacred Heart Co-Cathedral so please do not park on this side of the street.
- The decision to cancel Ski Club because of weather will be made the day of the trip by 11:00 a.m. Additional Wednesdays will be added to the end of the season if trips are cancelled due to weather. If school is cancelled on a Wednesday because of snow, do not assume we will cancel Ski Club. Conditions are probably good for skiing and, if it is possible to transport the students safely, we will have Ski Club. Watch for a Parent Alert text or check the CCHS website www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org or [cchsnews](https://twitter.com/cchsnews) tweet for the final word.
- Cost: \$300 for shaped skis rental or, if you are bringing your own equipment; \$350 for rental of blades or snowboard. These amounts include lift tickets and transportation for all five dates. Lessons are available for every level of skier each Wednesday at no extra cost. Students renting equipment from Winterplace must complete a liability form in its entirety, including credit card information. This form will be given to students after they register for ski club.
- **Helmets are strongly encouraged.**
- Students must submit ski club contract and a medical emergency form. These forms will be available by November 15. Forms and fees must be returned to school by December 13.
- Ski Club may be cancelled if there is not enough student interest to support the costs.

FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

ASBESTOS AND PESTICIDE NOTIFICATIONS- Attached to this email is information regarding asbestos and pesticide use in the school. In compliance with Environmental Protection Agency regulations regarding asbestos management, the letter from the Diocesan Office of Buildings and Properties serves to notify all parents and teachers that there is an Asbestos Management plan on file in the school office. Anyone seeking more detailed information should contact Mr. Villers. Additionally, the West Virginia Department of Agriculture's notification regarding any use of pesticide is also attached. It allows you to request notification should specific levels of pesticides be used in the school building. If you have additional questions, please contact Mr. Villers.

HOMEWORK HOUR- The school library is open for distraction-free homework completion and study. The opportunity is available Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons from 3-4 p.m. to students in all grades. Mrs. Shindle is in the library to supervise students while they work.

FREE MATH TUTORING-- As a service to Charleston Catholic students, our school's chapter of Mu Alpha Theta provides free math tutoring two days a week after school. Hours are 3-4 p.m. on Tuesdays in room 313 and Wednesdays in room 209 or 205. Just drop in, no appointments necessary!

FORGOTTEN HOMEWORK?—While you are welcome to bring assignments that your children may have forgotten to the school office, the office staff will not deliver these items to students or interrupt class to call students to the office. Students may come to the office to retrieve items that they are expecting between classes, at lunch, or at break.

GLOVES? GLOBE?—Our high school science classes would welcome the donation of rubber gloves to be used during lab work. Additionally, Mrs. Arnold could use some student globes in her classroom. Please contact Mrs. Arnold to coordinate a donation or drop off any gloves in the office.

NON-CUSTODIAL PARENT MAILINGS -- Non-custodial parents who would like to receive copies of report cards and newsletters should send \$12 and a current mailing address to Mrs. Lovejoy in the school office. The list and labels are updated each year, so please be sure to notify Mrs. Lovejoy of your request.

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 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. 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.

PROOF OF ENROLLMENT FORMS -- for drivers' licenses and permits may be requested in the school office using the CCHS request form. 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 SEND A NOTE** with your child in the morning. The student should come to the office before 8 a.m. to get an appointment slip from the office enabling him/her to leave class at the specified time. He/she will check out in the school office and will sign in upon returning from the appointment.

WANT YOUR PHOTOS IN THE YEARBOOK? - So do we! Students, parents, and teachers can contribute content to the yearbook staff by uploading photos directly to our website for potential use in the book. You can share photos of sporting events, performances, school & community events, or shots of you and your friends our staff photographers might have missed. Start sharing today! **Share images directly from your phone by downloading the FREE hjeShare app using school code: goirish**

OR:

- 1) Go to www.hjeshare.com
- 2) Enter the school code: goirish
- 3) Locate the picture (file) you want to upload. You can Ctrl+click to upload as many as 10 photos at a time.
- 4) Click Open.
- 5) Click each thumbnail to select and enter any relevant information about the images.
- 6) Click Submit Image Information when you are done.

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



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

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.

NOTES FROM THE ACADEMIC ADVISOR

- 1) **SAT and ACT** testing and registration information is available online at --www.collegeboard.org and 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 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.



NOTES FROM THE PARENT VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION (PVA)

All volunteers must be 100% VIRTUS compliant.

1. **PVA Polos and Fleece** - As the weather gets cooler, it is time to think about ordering uniform jackets and long sleeve polo shirts. 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.

2. **Cafeteria volunteers**– Many thanks to those of you who have volunteered to help. Please take notice of the weekly reminder emails as the lunch times may vary based upon mass schedules and alternate bell schedules. If there is a change in schedule, it will be noted in the reminder email. If you are unable to attend on your scheduled day, please find a sub and let the kitchen staff at school know by calling the school at 304-342-8415. If you would like to be placed on the schedule during the second semester, please contact Stephanie Sullivan (304-807-0377 or wvsteph23@yahoo.com). **SECOND SEMESTER VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!** ****The Kanawha-Charleston Health Department requires all cafeteria volunteers to have a food handler card. Cards must be renewed every two years. In order to be in compliance with this requirement, all CCHS cafeteria volunteers must complete a 75 minute online training course and 30 question assessment with a score of 70%. The PVA will pay the registration cost and will provide volunteers with an access code to participate in the course. Please contact Stephanie Sullivan (304-807-0377 or wvsteph23@yahoo.com) for an access code. Upon completion please submit a copy to the office which will be kept on file at the school and Athletic Facility. ****

3. **Parent involvement** is necessary for the successful operation of the CCHS athletic program. Helping transport students to games and practices, working gates and concession stands, being supportive of the players and coaches, attending games, and participating in the team lunch program are just a few ways that parents help. EVERY parent of an athlete is needed to support the teams! Each sport is allocated one team lunch, and guidelines and dates for these lunches will be distributed to parents at the beginning of each season, once team rosters have been established.

4. **Athletic family passes** are available through the PVA. These passes are good for immediate family members only (not cousins, in-laws, ex-in-laws, grandparents, fiancées, etc.) to attend CCHS home games. The passes do not cover away games, tournaments played at home, or any SSAC tournaments. Cost is \$150 for all home middle school games only, \$175 for all home high school games only, and \$200 for all home games (both levels). A \$100 student or senior citizen pass for all home games is also available. Please contact Stephanie Hopkins (304-807-0052) if you have questions about these passes.

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). Completed forms will be accepted throughout the school year. Please drop off in the school office.



- 1.) With the observance of All Saints Day and All Souls Day, the month of November is a time to remember those who have gone before us. Charleston Catholic has a Book of Remembrance, with names of deceased loved ones, which will be located in the chapel all month. Over the years, students have shared names of loved ones they would like remembered in prayer by our school community. Your loved ones will be kept in our prayers throughout November.
- 2.) We will celebrate Vocations Awareness Week during the week of November 4-8. In addition to morning prayers dedicated to religious vocations, we will also join the novena for vocations that is taking place across the diocese that week. At 7:30 each morning of Vocations Awareness Week, faculty, students and others in the community will gather in the Chapel to read daily readings and pray with the saint that the diocesan office has designated that day (including St. John the Baptist, St. John Vianney, St. Joseph and St. Therese of Lisieux). Any member of the CCHS community interested in joining in the early morning novena is welcome.
- 3.) The sixth grade retreat will be on Thursday, November 14, at Blessed Sacrament Parish. Our theme will be Thanksgiving. On that day, sixth graders will need to be dropped off at Blessed Sacrament at 8:30 a.m. and picked up at 2:15 p.m. Further details and permission slips will be provided will be provided in the coming

weeks.

- 4.) TEC (Teens Encounter Christ) is a three-day, two-night (overnight) retreat weekend designed for high school sophomores, juniors and seniors, as well as freshmen in college. The weekend will take place November 9-11 (Veterans Day Weekend so no school is missed) at John XXIII Pastoral Center. Mark Haas, Theresa O'Leary, Molly Linehan Belcher, and Fr. Leon Alexander are just some of the fantastic directors who will lead the retreat. TEC applications are in theology classes.
- 5.) The CCHS Annual Woodcutting day to Big Laurel in Mingo County will be Monday, November 11 (Veterans Day) this year. This is an opportunity for juniors and seniors. See Mr. Mehle or Mrs. Linehan Belcher for more details.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND GIVING

CLAY COUNTY CHRISTMAS PROJECT— We are moving forward with preparations for our annual Clay County Christmas party. Each year approximately 400- 500 children and their families are served through this project which highlights the bond between families in Clay County and the CCHS/ SHGS community. Anyone willing to donate goods or funds should contact the school office -- cash donations are needed to assist with extra stocking stuffers, a special something extra for the food boxes, and miscellaneous needs. The entire school is involved in the project: getting stockings, providing stocking stuffers and gifts for specific children, stuffing stockings, bagging gifts by family, loading trucks, and on and on. The party will take place in Clay County on Saturday, December 7. Two groups of seniors actually go to the party: 1) morning helpers -- truck unloaders and organizers (who leave CCHS around 7 a.m. and then return



midmorning to CCHS); 2) day-long helpers -- seniors who represent a variety of clubs and have specific tasks to perform. We'd like to take more students but the church facility in Maysel is very small. The timetable for the Clay County Christmas Project is:

- 1) **Friday, November 22 - \$2 jeans day** - to raise money for photo paper and ink -- each Clay County child gets his/her picture taken with Santa during our party!
- 2) **Tuesday, November 26 (at the latest)**- Students will receive the name and other information about their Clay County children. Students are asked to purchase a \$35 gift. Please do not exceed the \$35 limit but buy as much as you can for \$35. Try to hit right at the mark! It is very difficult on families when children within the same family do not receive "equitable" gifts. If a CCHS student is unable to participate in this aspect of the Clay County Christmas Project, please alert Mrs. Hoyer. Parents wishing to help with gifts for additional children are encouraged to inquire in the office.
- 3) **Tuesday, November 26** - Stockings and stocking stuffers are due to theology teachers. We try to fill 500 stockings, so we count on each student to bring in the requested items. Each student needs to bring a 12-14 inch stocking (about \$2) along with their grade level's stocking stuffer assignment. The dollar store is a great resource for these items.
 - Each 6th, 7th, and 8th grader: One 12 to 14 inch stocking to be filled, 3 small boxes of crayons (8 or 16 count), 2 thin coloring books, 5 mechanical pencils, 2 chapsticks and 1 pair of stretchy gloves-one size fits all.
 - Each high school student: One 12 to 14 inch stocking to be filled, 2 hairbrushes, 2 tubes of toothpaste, 2 toothbrushes individually packaged, 2 chapsticks and 1 pair of stretchy gloves-one size fits all. **EXTRA ITEMS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!**
- 4) **Tuesday, December 3-** Food items are due -- Each homeroom will be preparing food boxes. Each student will be asked to provide specific food items. The majority of the food boxes are being provided by Sacred Heart Grade School children. CCHS students help fill the remainder of the boxes required by the number of families participating. Students will sign up for food items in their homerooms.

5) **Wednesday, December 4** - Wrapped gifts are due with the family number and Clay County child's name securely taped on the front.

6) **Various dates** -- Our student activity groups, service clubs, and other student groups are also participating by donating cookies, candy canes, etc. These students will receive specific information from their sponsors.

Thank you for your generosity to the children of Clay County!

SUPPORT CCHS AS YOU SHOP— For those of you starting to think about holiday shopping, please keep Charleston Catholic in mind. 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 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 2020 – Planning is underway for our 16th summer of HOPE. We will partner again next summer with Bill & Addie Likens, who coordinate the Cabwaylingo Appalachian Mission (CAM) in Wayne and Mingo Counties. During the week of **June 14-19, 2020**, our group of juniors, seniors, college age alumni and adult work crew leaders will make significant repairs at the homes of several low income families and seniors. Also, some of our volunteers will assist with the construction of a new house for a family. We are committed to raising **\$25,000, the amount needed to purchase all the building materials for the construction of the new home.** CAM will supplement our fundraising efforts with the materials necessary to complete the repairs on the other houses at which we will work, making these houses warmer, safer, and drier. A **slide show of our HOPE experience last summer** can be viewed on our school website under the "Community Outreach" tab. The slide show includes photos of the new house that some of our volunteers help construct last June. The house was built for a mom and her two young children.

Please consider making a **tax deductible donation, 100% of which will go toward the purchase of construction supplies.** Checks can be made payable to Charleston Catholic and sent to the school office to the attention of Bill Mehle, HOPE Coordinator, or donate online at www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org and search "Donate to HOPE."



HEALTH, SAFETY AND DRIVING

VAPING AND E-CIGARETTES- Recent news stories have highlighted the rise of severe lung illnesses associated with vaping. Despite the news, vaping is increasing among young people. A recent [New York Times article](#) reports that a quarter of twelfth grade students report using nicotine vaping products in the last month. Beyond the acute lung illnesses that arise, little is proven about the long term effects of vaping. However, recent studies suggest that teenagers' brains are susceptible to the effects of nicotine as well. Concerns exist related to attention disorders, impulse control, and inclination to substance abuse, and researchers are examining the effects of nicotine on the brains of young mice. The results are alarming. It is critical that we educate our young people of the potential dangers that exist, even beyond the immediate lung illnesses which are resulting in hospitalization and death. More information about potential effects of nicotine on the adolescent brain can be found [here](#).

SAFETY MATTER – Our central downtown location offers many benefits. However, it also brings challenges at times. We must be proactive in our safety measures. As students venture out in the community during lunch or after

school, it is important that they are aware of their surroundings. Please review with your children the importance of leaving a place where they do not feel safe and making an adult aware of the uncomfortable situation. Student drivers must also be sure not to leave valuables in their cars and to lock their cars when they leave them for the day. All doors to the school building are locked during the school day. Entry is granted only through the main Virginia Street doors. Please be patient when awaiting entry to the building. For safety reasons, students and faculty are instructed not to open ANY door to let visitors into the building. The office staff works hard to respond to the doorbell when it chimes and to receive and welcome all guests, but it may take a moment or two before you are admitted. You may be asked to identify yourself before being permitted entry—this is for everyone’s safety. Please don’t take it personally! Upon entry, please report directly to the office to sign in and receive a visitor’s pass.

STUDENT DRIVERS – Please encourage your student drivers to be responsible, safe drivers. Emphasize to them the importance of following the speed limit, wearing seatbelts, not reclining seatbacks, pulling into and out of parking lots cautiously, being aware of pedestrians. They should not be speeding through yellow lights, texting or talking on cell phones while driving, or fiddling with music. Lunch hour is a high traffic time around downtown and students should be especially cautious when driving and parking. Additionally, students should be cautious when driving to our Athletic Facility. There are offices and homes in the neighborhood and drivers must be aware of people and pets outside in their neighborhood. It is easy to get distracted from the enormous responsibility of driving. Tragedies happen in an instant. If you see inappropriate or reckless driving behavior while students are involved in school, please note the license plate and make of car and notify Mr. Villers. Otherwise, if you recognize an unsafe student driver, parents would appreciate knowing this information from you!

ATHLETIC UPDATES

SPORTSMANSHIP AT CCHS – As we approach the beginning of a new athletic season, it is a good time to review our expectations for our student athletes, coaches, fans, and parents. The success of our program leads to increased attention on our athletes, coaches, and families. While it is easy to get swept up in the emotion of the moment, our athletes, coaches, parents, and fans should demonstrate the values of integrity, respect, and community at all times. People judge our school by viewing the behavior of those who represent it most visibly. Charleston Catholic is committed to ensuring that sportsmanship is always a part of our athletic programs. We will require participation in the National Federation of State High School Association’s sportsmanship course in the event that a student athlete, student, parent, or fan is ejected from a contest by an official of the sport. The course must be completed for further participation or admittance to athletic contests. In addition, the person ejected from a game must sit out 10% or more of the total number of regular season games (e.g., 2 soccer/basketball, 3 baseball/softball, etc.) following the ejection. For more information about the NFHS course, which gives a better understanding of sportsmanship and how it impacts the educational process, go to www.nfhslearn.com. Please talk to Jacob Nelson for additional information.

TRAVEL—Students may not drive to school events, such as field trips or “away” athletic events, taking place at locations other than Charleston Catholic facilities or other designated “home” locations. Students must ride to and from the event with adults (age 21 or older) who have met the Diocesan requirements for field trip drivers.

FALL SPORTS UPDATE-- The fall sports season is coming to a close! Good luck to the teams still competing.

- The **high school golf team** finished as Regional Champions and third in the State this season. Evan Sayre finished on the All-Tournament team. Many thanks to Coach Helmick for another amazing season. Congratulations to all the golf team members on their success.
- The **cross country teams** are finishing up their season this Saturday at the State Meet at Cabell Midland. The girls will run at 1:00 p.m. and the boys at 1:45 p.m. Both teams won the Regional Championship earlier this month.
- The middle school cross country teams also had an impressive season. The girls finished third at the County Meet and the boys finished seventh.

- The **high school girls' soccer team** is on a roll and once again will be heading to the State Tournament. The Lady Irish are Regional Champions and will take on Bridgeport on Friday, November 8, at 11:00 a.m. in Beckley.
- The **high school boys' soccer team** is also heading back to the State Tournament as the Regional Champions. The boys take on Robert C. Byrd at 6:30 p.m. in Beckley on Friday, November 8.
- The **middle school girls' soccer team** finished the year as regular season champions, going undefeated! They fell short to John Adams in a very close championship game. It was a terrific season for Coach Messer and the Irish.
- The **middle school boys' soccer team** finished third in the Kanawha County Tournament this year with a very close loss to John Adams in the semi-finals. It was an excellent season for the Irish and Coach Berry.
- The **high school volleyball** team is catching fire at the right time, winning 8 of their last 10 matches heading into Sectionals. They start Sectionals on Tuesday vs. Richwood at Webster County High School at 5:00 p.m.
- The **middle school volleyball** team finished fourth in the county this year. They lost a close game to the eventual champion Horace Mann in the semi-finals. It was an excellent year for Coach Monday and the Lady Irish!



HANDBOOK REMINDERS

PLANNED ABSENCES-- While the school does not encourage students to miss school for any reason, there is a procedure to follow when students know of absence(s) in advance. The purpose is to notify school personnel of a student's planned absence. **School-sponsored activities are excused (e.g., academic competitions, post-season sports play).** **All other absences are unexcused (e.g., doctor appointments, performances, funerals).** It is the student's responsibility to make up all class work, assignments, and tests missed due to the absence, according to school guidelines. Student must obtain an "Out of School Notification" form from the office for all planned absences.

- 1) Parent/Guardian must complete the form and indicate specific date(s) and reason(s) for the absence.
- 2) Student must present the form to teachers and obtain signatures indicating that the teachers are aware of the absence.
- 3) The form must be turned into the office. Official school records will reflect the status of the absence, i.e., excused for school-approved activities or unapproved for all other absences. If a school-sponsored excused form is not completed and turned into the office prior to the absence, it will be treated as an unexcused absence.

CONGRATULATIONS

- to the cast, crew, and faculty directors, Mr. Fix and Mrs. Walter, of *Murder in the Knife Room*, the fall drama production, for a superb show last week. The comedy was highly entertaining and quite amusing! The time commitment of the actors and crew members was obvious. The cast included Grace Abdalla, Meredith Aliff, Adam Boothroyd, Gracie Bumgarner, Gabe Castro, Olivia Corbett, Simone Coustasse, Celina Delgra, Jenna DeTemple, Emily Divers, Robbie Fink, Mike Fox, Allyson Gardner, Lauren Gillespie, Josh Kardos, Madyson Kimble, Cameron Kiss, Carter Kiss, Mo Kranwinkel, Kathryn Lakin, Stephen Lewis, Rayna Nichols, Colleen O'Leary, Emma Seagle, Elizabeth Shaf, Sydney Sutphin, Nathan Tran, Delaney Wells, and Emma Wirts. Crew members were Ethan Bailey, Hayden Carriger, Drew Casingal, Jenna DeTemple, Robbie Fink, Christina Gelmini, Kathryn Lakin, Matthew Lewis, Sydney Loew, Duncan McMaster, Lilly Namsupak, Angele Nguyen, Dylan Nguyen, Colleen Rogers, Eva Toor, Nathan Tran, Emma Wirts, Andrew Wright, Izak Young, and Elizabeth Zacks.

- to high school boys' soccer coach Niall Paul for being named the National Federation Coaches Association 2019 Coach of the Year for excellence and leadership in the coaching profession. Coach Paul will receive his award at the State Tournament next weekend.



MANY THANKS

- to the PVA and all of our parent volunteers. The PVA's ongoing support of our teachers is deeply appreciated. We say thank you now as teachers receive their Wish List items to enhance their teaching and students' learning. PVA's generosity in granting wishes supports the whole community!

- to Doug Imbrogno who joined seniors in their theology World Religions classes to share his insights on the Buddhist tradition, and who, together with Thad Settle, hosted our students for an introduction to mindfulness meditation at the Unitarian Universalist Center.

- to the fall coaches and club sponsors for their efforts to instill the values of hard work, time management, and cooperation in our students. The many hours that they dedicate to the success of our students and their programs go a long way in helping our students grow into well rounded individuals.

-to all who purchased food items to support the junior class prom fundraiser. The items will be delivered to juniors on November 20. Juniors will deliver to customers immediately after school the same day.

- to Dr. Thomas Jones for speaking at the first quarter science seminar. Dr. Jones shared information regarding his research projects from the Ohio River to Belize. The students were introduced to many different species that Dr. Jones studied in these projects including whip scorpions in Bonaire, lionfish in Florida, freshwater mussels in the Ohio River, and Hicatee turtles in Belize. Dr. Jones also encouraged the students to get involved in science research early in college and to learn new skills, such as scuba diving. Again, thank you Dr. Jones!

- to parents Sara Frame, Jeff Hayes, Kerri Linton, Amy Monday, and Cynthia Hemphill-Reehling and faculty Molly Linehan, Theresa O'Leary, Dorothy Pile, Josh Shindle, and Jason Villers for accompanying the seventh graders to Camp Magis in Huttonsville for the three day camp experience. Their willingness to participate in camp helped provide students with a positive, meaningful experience.

SCHOOL CLOSURE INFORMATION

SCHOOL CLOSINGS/DELAYS DUE TO SNOW/ICE –I know it seems early to think about snow and that it still felt like summer a few weeks ago, but fall has finally arrived and that means winter is just around the corner. 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, WCHS, WCHS-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.**

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

FAMILY TRIPS, APPOINTMENTS, ETC. -- Please avoid taking students out of school for vacations, family trips, appointments, etc. If students miss school for any reason (including illness), it is their responsibility to find out what they missed. The policies for making up work are included in the Parent-Student Handbook. If your child is ill or will miss school for any reason, please notify the school office by 8:30 a.m. In addition, at the end of the semester students will have to stay after school to make up any time missed during excessive absences/tardies.

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 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.

Thursday, November 7	parent-teacher conferences, NO SCHOOL for students
Monday, November 11	Veterans Day holiday- NO SCHOOL
Thursday, November 14	6th grade retreat
Friday, November 22	\$2 jeans day for Clay County Christmas
Tuesday, November 26	stockings and stocking stuffers due to theology classes
Wednesday/Friday, November 27-29	Thanksgiving holiday
Tuesday, December 3	food items due in homerooms
Wednesday, December 4	wrapped gifts due in homerooms
Saturday, December 7	Clay County Christmas party
Wed/ Thurs/ Friday, December 18-20	exams; 11:15 dismissal
Saturday, December 21	beginning of Christmas vacation
Monday, January 6	classes resume
Friday, January 17	end of the first semester
Monday, January 20	Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday- NO SCHOOL
Monday, January 27- Friday, January 31	Catholic Schools Week
Friday/Saturday, January 31-February 1	winter play, 7:30 p.m.
Monday, February 17	Presidents' Day holiday- NO SCHOOL
Thursday, February 27	8th grade Golden Horseshoe Test
Friday, March 20	end of 3rd quarter
Monday, April 6	beginning of Easter Vacation
Tuesday, April 14	classes resume
	SAT school day test for juniors
Friday, May 1	freshman retreat
Friday/Saturday, May 1-2	spring play
Monday-Friday, May 4-15	AP Testing
Saturday, May 16	prom
Thursday, May 21	Baccalaureate, in evening
Friday, May 22	Graduation and Project Graduation, in evening
Monday, May 25	Memorial Day holiday
Mon/ Tues/ Wed, June 1-3	exams for 6 th - 11 th graders
Wednesday, June 3	Moving Up Ceremony for 8th graders

NOVEMBER/ DECEMBER MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4- Pizza Christie Staun Ashley Stapleton Courtney Lohri	5- Sausage, gravy, biscuits, and roasted potatoes Sara Frame Amy Monday Jessica Griffith	6- Egg rolls, wild rice, chicken stir fry Greg Bolles Gail Carter Erica Baumgras	7- Parent Conferences No School	8- Stuffed shells & garlic bread Michelle Endicott Stefanie Henrich Cassidi Wriston
11- Veterans' Day No School	12- Chicken BBQ sandwiches & baked beans Chris Williams Alison Corbin Jaime Bowman	13- Meatball subs & macaroni salad Jennifer Wright Jeff Wright Wendy Johnson	14- Corn dogs, taco soup Susan Jarvis Stephanie Sullivan Joanne Kirby	15- Bacon cheeseburgers, tater tots Sheila Moran Tina Caldwell Ron Rushworth
18- Pizza Jennifer Scalzo Harmony Brown George Metz	19- Beef tacos, nachos, & refried beans Mireille Hanna Pam Delgra Jodie Breitreutz	20- Ham & cheese on pretzel bread, chicken noodle soup Jennifer Haynes Cindy Keith Trish Lusk	21- Thanksgiving Lunch Pat McCutcheon David Mitchell Sandra Mitchell	22- Chicken parm subs, mozzarella sticks Susan Veazey Tracy Zachwieja Nat Namsupak
25- Chicken nuggets, cheesy potatoes Wendy Young Kip Wilcox Alex Macia	26- Hot dogs, smiley fries, & cole slaw Julie Carew Amy Hill Karrah Pauley	27- Thanksgiving No School	28- Thanksgiving No School	29- Thanksgiving No School
2- Pizza Heather Harrison Ron Rushworth Jennifer Haynes	3- Chicken alfredo, garlic bread Rob Aliff Paula Durst Chris Hayslip	4- Homemade chili, cheesy fries Annette Reynolds Jodie Breitreutz Brandy Messer	5- Mac and cheese, corn dogs Barb Haynes Fletcher Arnold Emilie Love	6- Cheeseburgers, tater tots Cary Charbonniez Shawna Meeks Betsy Cimino

Volunteers 1 and 2: 10:30- 1:00
 Volunteer 3: 11:15- 1:00

Mass Day-

Volunteers 1 and 2: 11:00- 1:15
 Volunteer 3: 11:45- 1:15