



November 1, 2024

INSIDE CHARLESTON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Teaching character, compassion, and confidence to the youth of West Virginia for over 100 years

Dear parents,

I have had the privilege in the last few weeks to spend quite a bit of time in classrooms during the course of the school day. It has been an absolute pleasure to witness the hard work and productivity of our students and teachers. I have seen sixth graders working together to design vehicles with the goal of making it successfully down a ramp; Algebra students challenged by absolute value graphs; ninth graders presenting artistic representations of scenes from *The Odyssey* through videos, drawings, and written character analyses; sophomores educating their classmates about saints they have researched; and biology students participating in organelle speed dating. They have been enthusiastic about their activities, supportive of their classmates, and respectful to their teachers. It is a joy to see our young people taking advantage of these amazing learning opportunities that are offered by their teachers.

None of these classrooms offered students easy routes, and that's good. Learning occurs in those moments when the answers don't come easily. The work that goes into the challenging tasks, concepts, or ideas support the understanding that is so critical for true learning. As we enter the second quarter, let's encourage our young people to stick with it even when their work gets hard. Let's reassure them that they are exceptionally able, and they **can** do it. Let's support them as they persevere and gain new knowledge.

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: Garrett Childress' maternal grandmother. Please keep the Childress family in your thoughts and prayers.

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ACADEMIC UPDATES

FIRST QUARTER REPORT CARDS ARE ON THE WAY – First quarter report cards were mailed today. As announced in August, the Diocesan grading scale has changed to the scale below. **The grading scale listed in the bottom left hand corner of the report card is incorrect.** It has not been updated to reflect the new grading scale. RenWeb is working on making that change. However, the grades reflected in the report card **DO** reflect the new grading scale.

| | | |
|--------------|-----------|---------|
| A+ = 100 | A = 91-99 | A- = 90 |
| B+ = 89 | B = 81-88 | B- = 80 |
| C+ = 79 | C = 71-78 | C- = 70 |
| D+ = 69 | D = 61-68 | D- = 60 |
| F = below 59 | | |

Please review and discuss quarter grades, conduct grades, and teacher comments with your children. Consider whether any relationship exists between behavior and achievement. Ask your child(ren) to identify their successes and challenges from this quarter. Earlier this week, teachers provided students with printouts that include details of first quarter grades which should offer additional insights about their grades. On the report cards, notice that 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 2024. Freshmen and middle school students do not have cumulative GPAs at this time. Remember, students must have **an unweighted 2.0 semester (not cumulative) GPA** in order to be eligible to participate in athletics.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR – Expectations for students, academically and behaviorally, are appropriately high. Teachers have established clear guidelines for students' in class and school behavior. Students who receive Ns or Us in conduct on their report cards are not meeting school behavioral expectations. Administrators may add behavioral consequences and will follow up with students when such incidents occur in order to set expectations for behavior improvements.

MAP TESTING- Family Reports with student achievement information from the September MAP tests for sixth through tenth graders are included in the report card mailing. The Family Report provides details on each student's national percentile and RIT score. They also include details on the student's growth from fall 2023 to fall 2024 if they took MAP last year at any school (not just at CCHS). Students will test again at the end of January and again at the end of April. If you have questions about your child's MAP scores, please contact Meredith Aubel at meredith.aubel@charlestoncatholic-crw.org or 304-342-8415.

SCIENCE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY TUTORING OPPORTUNITY-- Twelve new students were inducted into the CCHS chapter of Science National Honor Society this month. The officers are Co-Presidents Michelle Pauley and Telina Williams; Vice President Julie Jadue; Secretary Sophie Frame; and Treasurer William Salutillo. To fulfill their service requirements, some of the honor society students will be available to peer tutor for middle and high science courses in the library on Tuesdays from 3 - 4 pm. Please contact one of the officers or Mrs. Arnold if you have any questions.

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 take place in the library on Tuesdays from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Just drop in, no appointments necessary! If you have any questions, email Mrs. Griffith at sarah.griffith@charlestoncatholic-crw.org or Mrs. Walter at jean.walter@charlestoncatholic-crw.org.

HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE OLYMPIAD—We are looking for team members for the 2024-2025 school year. If you are interested in engineering, chemistry, rockets, geology, ecology or any other science topic, you will have a chance to explore that interest as an Olympiad team member. There will be an informational meeting on Monday, November 4th at lunch in the Biology classroom. We are hoping to get together two teams, so bring a friend.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BOOK CLUB--Join the middle school book club! Feel free to join the Google Classroom with code 4mgnjsc. So far we have read *Impossible Creatures* by Katherine Rudnall, which is up for Book of the Year for 2024!

FIRST SEMESTER EXAM SCHEDULE – With the first quarter behind us, it is now time to start preparing for first semester exams. They will be here before we know it. We will administer exams before Christmas, though the semester does not end until January 17. From January 6 (when classes resume) through January 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. 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.

| | | |
|---|------------------|--|
| 6 th grade: | Wednesday, 12/18 | exams for periods 1 and 2; 11:15 dismissal |
| | Thursday, 12/19 | exams for periods 3 and 5; 11:15 dismissal |
| | Friday, 12/20 | exams for periods 6 and 8; 11:15 dismissal |
| 7 th /8 th grades*: | Tuesday, 12/17 | exam for period 3 (8:00 – 9:30 a.m.); 2:45 dismissal |
| | Wednesday, 12/18 | exams for periods 2 and 7; 11:15 dismissal |
| | Thursday, 12/19 | exams for periods 1 and 5; 11:15 dismissal |
| | Friday, 12/20 | exams for periods 4 and 8; 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 3 (8 – 9:30 a.m.); 2:45 dismissal |
| | Wednesday, 12/18 | exams for periods 2 and 7; 11:15 dismissal |
| | Thursday, 12/19 | exams for periods 1 and 6; 11:15 dismissal |
| | Friday, 12/20 | exams for periods 4 and 8; 11:15 dismissal |



UPCOMING EVENTS

CHARLESTON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER—Join us to support the CCHS Middle School Robotics Team!

Date: Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Time: 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Location: Chipotle, 2811 Mountaineer Blvd, Charleston, WV 25309-9450

Come dine in or pick up your order to help us raise funds for our Robotics Team! If you're ordering online, be sure to use the code **2RWWYTN** to make sure your order counts toward our fundraiser (note: fundraiser code is valid for pickup only, not delivery). Every order helps us reach our goal!

How You Can Help:

- Show the fundraiser flyer which is attached to this email (either a hard copy or on your phone) or simply mention to the cashier at checkout that you're supporting Charleston Catholic High School Robotics.
- If ordering online for pickup, don't forget to enter the code **2RWWYTN** so your order is credited.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES -- Parent conferences for all grades are scheduled for Wednesday, November 6, from 8 am to noon; 1 to 5 pm; and 6 to 9 pm. **There will be NO SCHOOL for students on November 6.**

Parents will meet with teachers for 10 minutes. Conferences between 8 and 10 a.m. and 1 and 2 p.m. will be virtual. Virtual conferences will use Meet the Teacher. **Specific details for running a video conference are attached to this email.** Meet the Teacher times the virtual conferences and automatically ends each conference at the 10 minute mark. Conferences between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m., 2 and 5 p.m. and 6 and 9 pm will be in person in each teacher's classroom.

Teachers will begin conferences by asking you what you would like to know about your child. You will have 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.). This is a wonderful opportunity to strengthen the home-school partnership to benefit our young people.

EDUCATIONAL ZOOM OPPORTUNITY- All CCHS students and their families are invited to participate in an educational Zoom learning series on Climate and Energy. Expert guest speakers will share information on a number of WV specific energy topics and answer energy related questions, and our Science National Honor Society officers will be hosting the weekly meetings. On November 3, the speaker will be Mr. Chris Hamilton, President of the WV Coal Association, and on November 17 the speaker will be Mr. Neil Chakabarty discussing the electric grid in WV and beyond. Contact Mrs. Arnold for the link to join!

BASEBALL SPAGHETTI DINNER- The high school baseball team will host its annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser on Sunday, December 8, from 4-7 pm in the Commons. Tickets will be available in early November.

HIGH SCHOOL WINTER WALTZ—Mark your calendars now for the high school Winter Waltz on Saturday, February 22, 2025. The dance will be in the Commons from 8-10:30 p.m. for high school students. Permission slips will be sent home in the week before the dance.

2025 INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE TRIP UPDATE-- Ms. Chinn and Mrs. Arnold have changed the dates and location of the international science trip in 2025. The Peru Spring Break trip is now changing to Greece, and the trip will take place in June of 2025. It is still open to current sophomores, juniors, and seniors with an interest in the sciences! Please reach out to Ms. Chinn at kaitlin.chinn@charlestoncatholic-crw.org for more information. Join us on our adventure to the place where science started! We look forward to hearing from you!

FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

SCHOOL SPIRIT SHOP— Cold weather--and outdoor state tournaments!-- are coming. We have a variety of gear available in the school spirit shop. Check out the hats and scarves (pictured below!) and sport your CCHS gear while staying warm. Get the hat and scarf combo for \$32. If you are interested in ordering any spirit wear, please call the office at 304-342-8415. Go Irish!



VIRTUS— Be sure you're able 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 or at sessions periodically scheduled. To begin, visit the VirtusOnline.org and choose the online option. Allow 1- 1½ hours to complete the program. In addition to the training, employees and volunteers are required to complete a background check and sign off on the Form Policy Relating to Sexual Abuse of Children MUST be completed online before you are able to volunteer. You must add Charleston Catholic as a location

where you will be volunteering. If you have forgotten your password, or your user name, you can also call the Virtus help desk at 1-888-847-8870.

The Bishop has announced and widely publicized his desire for continuing Safe Environment education for all employees and volunteers throughout the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. **As a result, all employees and volunteers are required to update the training to Version 4.0 of Protecting God's Children.** Please visit www.virtus.org at your earliest convenience and log in and complete the training module. Once you log in to your VIRTUS account, you will find the link for the module by clicking the box that says "Current Training." Going forward, the Bishop requires all employees and volunteers to complete a yearly awareness training module and monthly bulletins. You may complete the module and the bulletins from anywhere you have an internet connection and at your convenience.

Additionally, adults who volunteer, coach, or chaperone, may be asked to update background and policy forms. Background checks must be updated every three years. Please contact Mr. Villers with any questions about how to update your forms.

The Diocese encourages reporting to civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. In addition to civil authorities, you may also report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel or volunteers of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, by contacting one of the Bishop's designees at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext.353; Fr. Dennis Schuelkens, ext. 270 or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504. You may also visit www.dwc.org, under "Accountability" for additional reporting mechanisms.



WANT YOUR PHOTOS IN THE YEARBOOK? - So do we! Students, parents, and teachers can contribute content to the yearbook by uploading photos directly to our app for potential use in the book. You can share photos of sporting events and practices, club meetings and events, school and community events, and student life. 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!

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. All seniors should retake the tests before January if they would like to do better before applying to college.
- 2.) College visit request forms are available in the office. Students should pick up the forms there and return the completed forms to the office 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.
- 3.) **College representatives** are visiting, and these meetings typically take place during lunch. Dates and times will be sent out in the Sunday email from Mrs. Hoyer, and students will be reminded on the morning and afternoon announcements. All high school students should take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about different colleges. Colleges and universities want to see that students are interested in them!



NOTES FROM THE PARENT VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION (PVA)

All volunteers must be 100% VIRTUS compliant.

- 1.) **PVA Polos and Fleece** - Our next order period for white polos and uniform jackets will open January 10, 2025, and closes January 17, 2025. Order forms for CCHS logo jackets (including the new green quarter zip fleece jacket, 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 Cynthia Hemphill-Reehling (803-242-5087) for jackets, Kristina Whiteaker (304-610-5544) 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.) Thanks to all who have volunteered to serve lunch! **It's not too late to get on the second semester schedule!** Please contact Megan Cutlip (304-807-8253 or megan.a.cutlip@gmail.com) if you would like to be on the cafeteria schedule for November 2024 - May 2025. Some volunteers will need to renew their food handlers' cards. Megan will give you information to do so once you have emailed her. Please indicate in your email if it has been more than two years since you took your food handlers course.
- 3.) **Parent involvement** is necessary for the successful operation of the CCHS athletic program. Helping drive students to games and practices, working gates, working concession stands, being supportive of the players and coaches, and attending games are just a few ways that parents help. Please check that your Virtus records and background checks are up to date by calling school and talking to Mrs. France. EVERY parent of an athlete is needed to support the teams!
- 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, homecoming games, or any SSAC tournaments.** Cost is \$175 for all home middle school games only, \$200 for all home high school games only, and \$250 for all home games (both levels). A \$100 student or senior citizen pass for all home games is also available. An order form for sports passes was included in the PVA Parent Registration Packet. Please contact Susan Jarvis (304-552-7831 or sjarvis0508@gmail.com) 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). Volunteer forms should be submitted electronically and order forms should be turned into the school office.



- 1.) The Junior retreat will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 20th, at Benedict Haid Farm in Quick, WV (that's just beyond Pinch, about 30 minutes from school). Our theme is Mindfulness and Gratitude. Guests will share their gifts and talents with focus on creativity, mindful awareness, prayer and joy. With good weather there will be time both indoors and outdoors, so juniors should be sure to dress warmly and comfortably. The juniors will meet at CCHS in the morning, and then be transported to Quick by parent drivers. Virtus certified parent volunteers are needed. If you are able to drive, please email Mrs. Linehan Belcher at molly.linehan@charlestoncatholic-crw.org.
- 2.) The CCHS Annual Woodcutting day to Big Laurel in Mingo County will be Monday, Nov. 11th (Veteran's Day) this year! This is a day of outdoor work of splitting wood and delivering wood to elderly residents in Mingo County who use it to heat their houses. Regardless of weather, volunteers enjoy the opportunity to be outside, to work hard, and to see tangible tasks that serve those in need. This special needs service opportunity is open to juniors and seniors. See Mrs. Linehan Belcher for more details.

- 3.) Are you interested in becoming a role model for a student at the Martin Luther King Center? We are looking for high school students who can participate in visits to the MLK Center after school on Thursdays beginning in late November. Responsibilities for this service will include helping with homework, spending time to read with the students, and building relationships with students. For more information about joining the after school group, please email Mrs. Williams: michaila.williams@charlestoncatholic-crw.org. Help is especially needed for the MLK Center's Thanksgiving Dinner on Nov. 21st.
- 4.) For the second year, Charleston Catholic has been asked to help with the Christian Help Christmas Giveaway in Mingo County. We will head to Mingo County, leaving at 5 p.m. Dec. 20 and returning to Charleston by 6 p.m. on Dec. 21st. The Executive Director of Christian Help has asked if a small group of students can help distribute presents to children on Saturday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. They will have the gifts ready to go. This service is open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors and earns 16 special needs service hours. The cost is \$40 per student which covers the cost of our stay, gas, breakfast and lunch. Fast food dinner each day will need to be paid for by the student participant. Space is limited and parent volunteers who can drive and help are welcome. Please email Mrs. Linehan Belcher for more information.
- 5.) Our neighbor, First Presbyterian Church has held Hope Village for over a decade, and Charleston Catholic continues to support this effort. Hope Village seeks out vendors who are lifting their artisans out of poverty, marginalization, and sex trafficking. Hope Village obtains beautiful, hand-crafted items on consignment, sells them and returns the proceeds to the vendors. The vendors pay a living wage to the artisans and support programs to educate and train others to engage in work that empowers them. We encourage this intentional Christmas shopping in First Presby's Recreation Room of the Activities Building (the building on the Boulevard). They will be open Nov. 10 (12 p.m.- 3p.m.); Nov. 14, 15, 16 (10am - 3pm); Nov. 17 (12 p.m. - 3p.m.); Nov. 21, 22, 23 (10 a.m. – 3 p.m.); Nov. 24 (12 p.m. – 3 p.m.); Nov. 29, 30 (10 a.m. – 3 p.m.); Dec. 1 (12 - 3 p.m.); Dec. 3 (12 p.m. – 3 p.m.).

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND GIVING

CLAY COUNTY CHRISTMAS PROJECT— Plans are progressing for our Clay County Christmas this year. Approximately 300 children and their families will again be served through this project which emphasizes the bond between families in Clay County and the CCHS/ SHGS community. Parents and businesses willing to donate goods or funds should contact the school office -- cash donations are needed to assist with extra stocking stuffers and miscellaneous needs. The entire school is involved in the project: getting stockings, providing gifts for specific children, stuffing stockings, bagging gifts by family, loading trucks, and on and on. The Christmas party will take place in Clay County on Saturday, December 7.



1.) **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 \$45 gift. Please do not exceed the \$45 limit but buy as much as you can for \$45. 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 ASAP.** Parents wishing to help with gifts for additional children are encouraged to inquire in the office.

2.) **Tuesday, December 3** – Stockings and stocking stuffers are due to theology teachers. We will try to fill 350 stockings, so we count on each student to bring in the requested items. Each student needs to follow the directions below for their grade level's stocking stuffer assignment. The dollar store is a great resource for these items. We are providing this information now so you can keep an eye out for bargains!

Each 6th, 7th, and 8th grader: Two 12 to 14 inch stockings to be filled, 4 small boxes of crayons (8 or 16 count), 4 thin coloring books, 5 mechanical pencils 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!

3.) **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.

4.) **Wednesday, December 4** - Wrapped gifts are due to homeroom teachers. Labeling instructions will be provided with shopping details.

5.) **Friday, December 6-** Bags of wrapped gifts are collected and trucks are packed with gift bags and food boxes.

6.) **Saturday, December 7-** Items are delivered to Risen Lord Parish in Maysel. A small group of seniors will have the opportunity to attend and participate in the Christmas party.

Any family unable to participate in our Clay County Christmas project should email Colleen Hoyer at colleen.hoyer@charlestoncatholic-crw.org.

Thank you for your support of the children of Clay County and this most important project!

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! Thanks to all of you who are supporting CCHS in this way. 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.

CCHS GOES GREENER - CCHS plans to install rooftop solar. The 162 panels will save CCHS hundreds of thousands of dollars over the lifetime of the system. This effort is a significant symbol of our effort to be good stewards of the earth's resources. We can make this happen only if we raise 100% of the cost of the project through the support of donors like you. After all rebates, the net cost of the project is \$71,500. Thanks to the generous support of a number of alumni, we are very near our goal. **Please help us get there.** Consider making a tax-deductible donation to help CCHS go greener! Visit our school website to learn more about this significant effort and to make your donation through PayPal or click the QR code below. If you prefer to donate by check, please mail your check to our school address - please note "CCHS Goes Greener" on the memo line.



ATHLETIC UPDATES

FALL SPORTS UPDATE-- The fall sports season is quickly coming to a close!

- The CCHS golf team had an outstanding year finishing as A State Runner Up! Will Gruse finished in 5th place and Ben Carew finished in 7th place, earning spots on the All State Team. Congratulations to our golfers and Coach Jordan on a terrific season!

- The cross country team is having another stellar year. The boys' team brought home the regional championship with Will Barton placing 1st, Peter Basdekis 2nd place, Isaac Collins 3rd place, Luke Passmore 5th place, Teddy Passmore 6th place, Ewan Becher 7th place, and Dickinson Gould 9th place! The girls' team also won the regional championship with Bella Boggs placing 1st, Hannah Fisher 3rd, Bailee King 4th, Abbie Nester 9th, Izzy Paulson 10th, and Ava Snyder 13th! Our cross country teams are now preparing for the State Meet at Cabell Midland High School this weekend on Saturday, November 2nd. Let's go Irish!
- The high school soccer teams are having excellent seasons so far. The boys' team won the sectional championship with a score of 7-0 over Pocahontas County and the regionals in extra time over PikeView. The girls' team won their sectional championship with a score of 10-0 over Nicholas County and the regionals 10-0 over Shady Spring. Both teams will participate in the State Tournament next week in Beckley. The girls will play at 9:30 am on Thursday against Point Pleasant, and the boys will play Grafton at 4:30 p.m. Go Irish!
- The volleyball team has really turned it around this season. They have their first 30 win season since 2016. They won their sectional tournament and have advanced to the regional round for the first time since 2019. They play again on Wednesday, November 6. Good luck to the Lady Irish in post season play.
- The cheer team has advanced to compete in Nationals for the Game Day Competition in January in Dallas, Texas, after their local Game Day Competition in October. They will compete in regionals on Saturday, November 9.
- **Middle School Update:**
 - o The boys' cross country team finished fifth in the County in a rebuilding year. Middle School volleyball, boys' soccer, and girls' soccer all finished their seasons in the County Semifinals.
 - o Irish athletics seem to be in good hands after another very successful fall season.



WINTER SPORTS ARE HERE—Practices will be starting soon for winter sports. Please contact the coaches listed below if you are interested in a sport this season.

Middle School Cheerleading- Julie Testman - julietestman@gmail.com

Middle School Boys' Basketball-Josh Shindle- josh.shindle@charlestoncatholic-crw.org

Middle School Girls' Basketball- Jacob Nelson- jacob.nelson@charlestoncatholic-crw.org

High School Boys' Basketball- Hunter Moles- coach.moles@yahoo.com

High School Girls' Basketball- Wes Hevener - wdhevener@gmail.com

High School Swimming- Katie Paulson- katie.paulsonwv@gmail.com

HANDBOOK REMINDERS

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION, MEDIA DEVICES, AND SOCIAL MEDIA-- Personal electronic devices including, but not limited to, cell phones, smart watches, tablets, earbuds, etc. have become an everyday part of life. However, the personal use of such devices is not permitted during the school day. **Electronic devices must be out of sight and disabled during the school day, upon entering the school building** from 7:45 a.m. (or upon entering the building after 7:45) until 2:45 p.m. E-readers may be used for academic purposes in high school English courses if permission has been granted by parents and the privilege has not been withdrawn by school faculty. Such devices must be turned OFF and out of sight upon leaving the high school English classroom and should not be in use anywhere else during the school day. **Cell phones may not be used in locker rooms or restrooms.** Students violating this

requirement will have their item confiscated and turned into the office. The school office staff will notify parents of violations. Any subsequent violations will result in a fine of \$25. Repeat offenders may also be required to turn their device into the office at the beginning of each school day.

Smartwatches are becoming more prevalent in our daily use. Smartwatches that become distracting may be taken by the teacher. Smartwatches are prohibited during test days without exception. Smartwatches that are taken and given to the office will be treated as a cell phone and have the same consequences.

MANY THANKS

- to the PVA for their ongoing commitment to our school community. Wish List items for teachers have been arriving for the last few weeks! We appreciate this act of kindness for our teachers.
- to the following guest speakers who took time out of their day to bring the traditions of the world's religions to life: Ravi Jaishankar joined us over Zoom from Colorado and deepened our understanding of mystical Hinduism. Dr. Christine Blice-Baum and her husband Mark shared their practice of Buddhism and of their recent trip to Buddhist monasteries in Nepal. Bill and Diana Mehle returned to share about their experience living in Japan as Maryknoll missionaries, whose belief is in the importance of being present to and embracing of different cultures and traditions. Thank you to each of our guests for bringing our textbook studies and discussions to life in a very real and vivid way!
- to Sydney Jenkins, a forensics scientist who works for the WV State Crime Lab who spoke with our high school students at the first science seminar of the 2024-2025 school year. Mrs. Jenkins introduced our students to education requirements and job options for forensics scientists as well as discussing how the WV State Crime lab works.



CONGRATULATIONS

- to the high school quiz bowl team on their first competition of the year at the BAT tournament in Berea, Kentucky on Saturday October 26. The CCHS A team, with members Abigail Dotson, Katelyn Hentschel and captain John Settle finished in 6th place and the B team with members Jude Griffith, Hannah Vriendt and captain Owen Newell finished in 11th place. John was the 5th highest individual scorer in the tournament.

CALENDAR

2024-25 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 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.

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| Wednesday, November 6 | Parent Teacher Conferences |
| Monday, November 11 | Veterans' Day- no school |
| Wed., November 27 | E-day for students |
| Thurs., Nov. 28- Fri. Nov. 29 | Thanksgiving holiday |
| Tuesday, December 3 | food items and stocking stuffers due |
| Wednesday, December 4 | wrapped gifts due in homeroom |
| Saturday, December 7 | Clay County Christmas Party |
| Sunday, December 8 | Baseball Spaghetti Dinner |
| Wed- Fri., Dec. 18-20 | exams; 11:15 dismissal |
| Mon., Dec. 23- Fri. Jan. 3 | Christmas break |
| Mon., January 6 | classes resume |

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| Mon., January 20 | Martin Luther King, Jr. Day- no school |
| Tues., January 21 | e-day for students, teacher professional development |
| Mon., February 17 | Presidents' Day- no school |
| Saturday, February 22 | Winter Waltz for high school, 8-10:30 p.m., CCHS Commons |
| Mon., March 24 | 11:30 dismissal, teacher professional development |
| Mon., April 14- Mon., April 21 | Easter Break |
| Tues., April 22 | classes resume |
| Thurs., May 22 | baccalaureate |
| Fri., May 23 | graduation |
| Mon., May 26 | Memorial Day- no school |
| Mon., June 2- Wed., June 4 | exams for 6th -11th graders; 11:15 dismissal |
| Wed., June 4 | Moving Up Ceremony for 8 th graders |