



Carroll Creek Communicator



Reflect and Prepare

The end of anything worth doing is worth the time it takes to “critically” reflect upon to celebrate successes and progress as well and determine what could be done better and strengthened. The 2017-2018 school year was full of opportunities for both activities.

Our UE/MS students enjoyed a total of 12 days altogether camping at various places including the Chesapeake Bay area, Tuckahoe State Park, Outdoor School, and other venues. There was a trip to the movie theater to see “Wonder”. Students visited Mount Vernon, The Weinburg Theater, the African American Museum, Catoctin Nature Center and Frederick County Library. Upper elementary participated in clean up activities at Ballenger Creek and Baker Parks. Our middle school students volunteered at the Rescue Mission monthly. Of course there was also field day and the athletic club. The first CCM Lego League teams took their projects to competition and two projects went to state! The garden club’s garden is thriving this year with lovely fruits, vegetables and flowers. The first year for our writing club found a great group of eager writers! All of this and lots of academic growth. We are eager to receive our PARCC scores this year!

There were challenges along with the great times and successes. We will be reviewing safety measures at our school as well as communication processes and procedures and how to best relay that information to our community. Yes, we had water issues again. Nothing as significant as previous years and we are hopeful this is the end of floods inside our school.

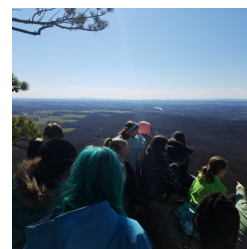
We will be celebrating with our first group of eighth grade students who will be moving on to high school next year. This is a small, but a very active group of young adults who will take a piece of CCM with them as they spread their wings to enjoy a new adventure in their development.

Thank you for sharing your children with us! We will miss them over the summer months, but hope you all enjoy the time together exploring and relaxing.

Carroll Creek Montessori Public Charter School Mission

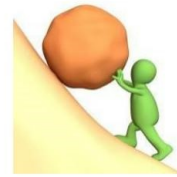
CCMPCS's mission is to build a community in which students, parents and staff work together to educate the "whole child," the sum of the physical, emotional, social, and intellectual parts. We will implement a Montessori based curriculum to give students the hands-on tools they need to be active learners both in and outside the classroom. By offering English with Spanish enrichment or dual-language Spanish instruction to all students, we will provide a unique opportunity for students to learn a second language at an early age and develop multicultural awareness.

6/4	3:45 Garden & Writing Clubs
6/6	9:00 Library Volunteer Coffee
6/7&8	6th Grade Outdoor School—Water
6/7	Library Books Due
6/7	7:00 8th Grade Celebration
6/8	STEM Day—LE
6/11	7:00 GC Meeting
6/15	12:45 Dismissal Last Day of School
6/20	7:00 Facilities Meeting
6/27	7:00 MMCI Meeting @ CCM
7/9	7:00 GC Meeting
7/25	7:00 MMCI Meeting @ MVM
8/13	7:00 GC Meeting
8/29	MMCI Meeting @ CCM
8/31	Open House 1:00-1:20 K, 1, 4 1:30-1:50 Returning P4, 2, 5 2:00-2:20 New P4, 3, 6, 7 2:30-3:00 P3, 8
9/4	First Day for P4-8
9/6	First Day P3



Counselor's Corner

Responding to Challenging Situations



As we move towards the end of the year many challenges have been overcome and many still lay ahead of us. When we are faced with difficulty it can be easy to feel overwhelmed. Below are some thoughts on how to help us deal with challenging situations in a healthy and productive way.

Practice Gratitude: Sometimes when surrounded by a challenging situation it's easy to remain focused on the stress and negativity. It can be helpful during those times to practice a sense of gratitude for the areas of our life we are blessed to have. For example starting a Gratitude Jar- a personal (or family) decorated jar or box in which you and your loved ones write down on paper things you are grateful for, place them in the jar. Whenever you need a pick-me up, go to the jar and pull out one of the pieces of paper to read about the wonderful things in your life.

Move through our feelings, don't avoid them: It may feel easier to avoid feelings that are uncomfortable or upsetting but in fact avoiding them won't make it any better. If feelings are suppressed they can resurface in unhealthy or inappropriate ways in the future. Working through challenging feelings, even though difficult is the most effective way to help them dissipate.

Find confidence in yourself & others: By addressing a challenge head on we are able to take it apart, look at the pieces and understand how best to resolve it. Ask yourself what is challenging about the situation for you in particular. Focus on how you might use your own unique abilities to find a resolution.

"The only way out is through"
- Robert Frost.

Buffy Kammikar

Staffing Changes

School Counselor



Mrs. Montalvo and Mr. Erard will both be moving out of state this summer. Mrs. Curtin has chosen to move to Carroll Manor Elementary next year. Mrs. Zoreah, Mr. Erard's morning assistant, will also be leaving us. We will miss each of these staff members and will hold within us the lessons they shared.

Mrs. Mosquera will be our new Montessori teacher specialist. Her vast experience teaching in various settings at various levels as well as leadership positions in major education trusts uniquely qualifies her for this position. She will be wearing many hats in this position. She will be leading our professional development and parent education initiatives. Mrs. Mosquera will also lead our assessment efforts.

Mrs. Michael and Mrs. Everett will be moving to Mrs. Montalvo's LE class. Mrs. Edwards will be stepping into the teaching position in her current class. Mrs. D. Andrews will be moving to UE and Mrs. Coleman will be full-time in UE. Each of these moves will provide the least amount of transition for our students.

We will be welcoming two new special education teachers. Mr. Koons will be joining our staff as a full time special education teacher. Our special education department is adding a half time special education teacher with that position being filled by Mrs. Diederich. Both of these teachers are coming to us with multiple years experience with FCPS.

This leaves us with two UE teaching, one full time and one part time assistant openings at this time. We currently are in the interview process and will find exceptional educators for each of these positions. Our staffing committee have been working hard and are excited about the new staff who will be joining us!

From the Art Room



Primary students are exploring the art element of color. They are mixing secondary colors and tints and shades and creating color wheels. They will finish their study of color by creating a rainbow mandala.

Lower Elementary students are finishing up their symmetrical facades projects and practicing observational drawing and drawing the proportions of the face as they create portraits of their classmates. After this exercise, students will complete their end-of-the-year self-portraits.

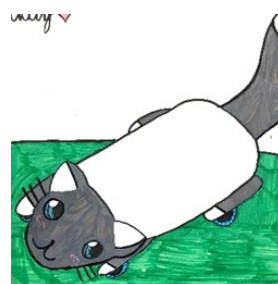
Upper Elementary students have nearly completed their Rube Goldberg and personified machines. Next, they will learn to identify the elements and style choices an artist employs to depict mood and emotion in a portrait. They will also practice observational drawing and drawing the proportions of the face in

preparation for their end-of-the-year self-portraits



Middle School Sculpture students are finishing their masks inspired by this year's guiding Middle School themes. They will finish the year with an independent sculpture project of their choice.

Middle School Oil Painting students are completing their art history paintings and finishing the year with self-portraits in a style of their choice.



"Every child is an artist."

— Pablo Picasso

Mrs. Reed

Music Notes



Kindergarten classes are continuing their preparation for Lower Elementary by practicing the button game song and working on identifying, playing, and constructing simple quarter and eighth note rhythm patterns. We have been practicing dynamics, piano (quiet) and forte (loud,) with many of our familiar classroom songs. Our Mr. Frog song uses rasps to accompany the song and provides a great sound effect. The singing game, "Mr./Mrs. Potato Head," has quickly become a favorite.

Lower Elementary classes have been working hard on various rhythm patterns using quarter notes, quarter rests, eighth notes, and half notes. Our first graders played rhythms for 2nd and 3rd graders to write down, and all classes enjoyed the Four Corners game testing their skill with numerous combinations of rhythm values. The "I Let Her Go-Go" circle dance of continually changing partners has been a big hit!

Upper Elementary students are deep into their listening map projects designing visual representations of various pieces. Students are focusing on tempos, instrumentation, dynamics, and melodic contour, while creating visual storylines as the piece plays. Some of the themes are amusement parks, parades, alien invasion, animal antics, and fruit battles.

Middle School

Drama: students will be presenting their polished comedy skits to peers.

Independent study: students are reflecting on their growth as a musician; some are choosing to perform in class sharing sessions.

Theory and composition: students are using this semester's knowledge study interval inversion, chord analyzation, and related text notation on compositions.



Performing Ensembles:

Our spring concert was a great success! We were honored to have so many attend our performance. A huge thank you to all the parent support for rehearsals and help during set up and tear down.

Physical Education

Primary students have been reviewing basketball skills like dribbling with their dominant hand, basic passing with a partner, and shooting using the new indoor hoop. We are always moving in primary P.E. as we continue to learn about the importance of warming up and stretching before exercise. Primary students are also getting to experience outdoor P.E. classes and cooperative games that are used in upper grades. They are really getting a taste of what it will be like next year in LE!



LE, UE, and Middle School are finishing up the year with their football/track and field unit. Students have been introduced to the proper hand grip, importance of the spiral, and correct throwing motion when it comes to the football. Students have learned about different positions in the game and what they do. Students have played in modified football games that challenge them to use the skills they learned earlier on in the unit and use them during gameplay. During the track and field section of our unit students will learn about different events that are done on the track, strategies for specific events, baton handoffs, and running form. Students will have the choice of what events they would like to do and we will have a class track meet.



- Mr. Hickman

Spanish Spoken Here

Kindergarten students learned about Spanish alphabet sounds and about the unique sound of each vowel. We then moved to learn about farm animals. Students are learning farm animals through a song. I made the song into a book that students colored and read to sing along. If you would like to play the farm animals song for your child, you can find it online at <https://rockalingua.com/songs/farm-animals>. I am sure your child will love to sing along for you using his/her mini-book!

Lower Elementary the children were excited to star the Little Red Riding Hood unit. It is a very friendly version of the story where the wolf just wants to eat the food that Little Red Riding Hood has in her basket. Within this unit, we are learning some family member words and parts of the body, and some other vocabulary words that are included in the story. The children made a mini-book where they named and draw pictures of their grandma, grandpa, mom and dad, brothers, sisters and even their pets. Learning through storytelling is a great way to learn vocabulary in context. The children are doing very well at learning new vocabulary.

Upper Elementary students continued learning to talk about the things that we like and dislike. Students are preparing a skit to present to the class, and have been doing a good job at writing their dialogs. We are also working on learning to identify personal pronouns. Such an important concept to be able to communicate in Spanish

Middle School level 1 students are learning how to describe themselves and their friends. Are they artistic, hardworking or lazy, tall or short, red, brown or blond haired, etc. **Level 2** students have been getting ready for an intercontinental vacation! The students worked on getting their passports and ID cards ready and suitcase packed to “take a vacation” by air travel. They created their airplane tickets and boarding passes, then “went” to the travel agency to get their ticket and itinerary, and then to the airport to check in their bags, get their boarding passes, and then claim their luggage and go through customs at their destination. It was a fun way to learn vocabulary used for traveling.

Culture learning: We discussed why Americans celebrate 5 de Mayo and what this holiday really means. Students learned that 5 de Mayo is NOT a celebration of Mexico’s independence as many people believe. Instead, it is a celebration of Mexican heritage and the commemoration of the Battle of Puebla in Mexico. Middle school students we learned about life in San Antonio, Texas and about Costa Rica – considered the happiest place in the world by the New Economics Foundation in 2016.



Tidbits from our GC

Greetings from your GC, The GC has been busy with some behind-the-scenes projects this month, including testing school water for lead and other impurities, considering the installation of a Raptor Visitor Management System in the front office, approving faculty professional development, planning for the repainting of the "original side" of the building, and more.

We look forward to hosting an end-of-the-year picnic on Friday, June 15 at 1pm at Ballenger Creek Park. More details on that event

are coming soon!

I would like to sincerely thank community members -- parents, guardians, CCM staff, and parent representatives from the GC and MMCI Board of Trustees -- for attending our important school safety meeting on May 23. The GC and school staff will meet on this topic during the first week of June, and the GC will include outstanding "issue bin" items on future meeting agendas.

The next GC meeting is Monday, June 11 at 7pm at CCM. Please remember to reach out to school



leadership and your parent representatives when questions arise. My email is gcchair@carrollcreekmontessori.org.

Best,
Dr. Molly Carlson
Governing Council Chair
Carroll Creek Montessori
Public Charter School

School Supplies

If you are preparing for the 2018-2019 school year, you can find our supply lists here: <https://education.fcps.org/ccmpcs/supplylists2018-19> Or you might want to save yourself time and maybe some money overall by using SchoolKids. We are partnering with them to gather school supplies in a package for families so they can pay one fee and not have to spend hours shopping. They will even deliver the supplies directly to our school! If you think this might be an option for you, you can go to the following link:

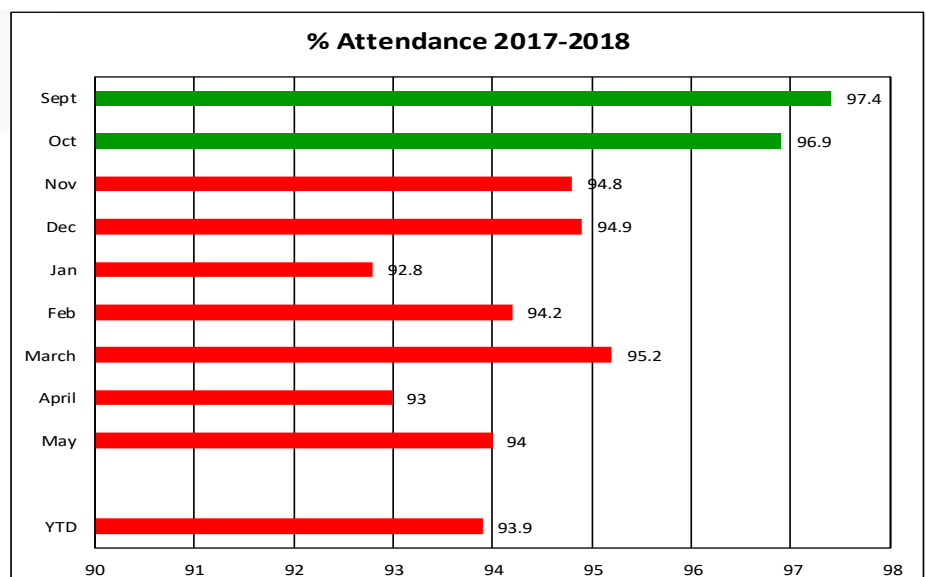
<http://www.shopttkits.com/> School #98051

This program is a school fundraiser so 5% of each sale will go toward activities that benefit our entire school community.



Attendance

We fell short of the 96% benchmark jointly set with FCPS. We only had two months the entire year with our percentage attendance being at or above the agreed upon level. May did show a significant improvement over April. We follow the FCPS calendar, so please plan your upcoming vacations with that in mind. The link to the 2018-2019 school calendar can be found by following the link below.



https://campussuite-storage.s3.amazonaws.com/prod/33903/86de7fb0-3a18-11e6-b537-22000bd8490f/1675803/a6f71e8e-e4d7-11e7-856b-1284a0604172/file/BOE_approvedCalendar_2018-19.pdf