

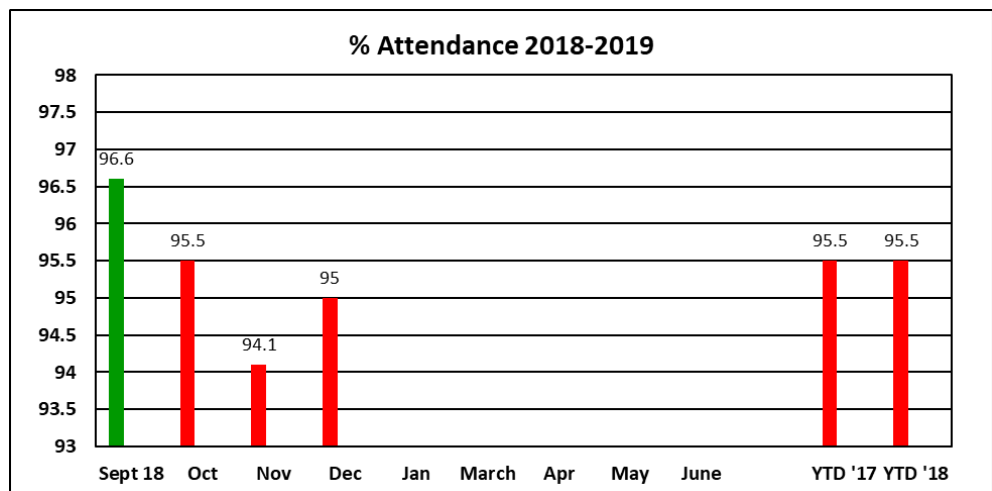


Carroll Creek Communicator



How You Can Help

1-17	Vision & Hearing Screening
1-21	No School Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
1-24	7:00 Middle School Chorus Concert
1-25	End of Semester
1-28	No School Teacher Work Day
1-29	6:00 Middle School Information Night
1-30	7:00 MMCI @ MVM
2-4	4:00 Writer's Club
2-5	3:45 Elementary Chorus Resumes
2-6	Progress Reports Sent Home
2-7	Vision and Hearing Re-test
2-18	No School Presidents' Day
2-23	9:00 Cultural Journey for Parents



We often get questions from parents asking how they can help their child and/or our school. Teachers will be sharing ways to help prepare as we near the “testing season” such as students should practice and know their math facts (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). All students should read and/or be read to every evening. A good night’s sleep is important. AND we can not teach your child if they are not here. Our overall attendance for the year is exactly the same as it was this time last year. We have a great chance to bring up our cumulative attendance right now. Attendance in January last year was 93.3—we can surely improve upon that number. This is one measure that counts for both our Charter (we will be asking for a renewal of our Charter next year so numbers are important) and the new Maryland accountability system (the Star system where we earned 4 of 5 stars using last year’s data). We currently have **49** students who have not missed any school this school year. WOW! That is 16% of our school! **15** students have missed 10 or more days of school already. Please remember that FCPS and the state count all absences no matter if they are excused or unexcused. Report cards will be coming home soon. Please check and ensure your child’s attendance is accurate. If you find errors, please contact our office. We can work together to meet our attendance benchmark!

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.



Montessori Moment



Grace and Courtesy: Setting the Tone for Mutual Respect and Kindness

The Montessori environment is a classroom of individual learners, each progressing at their own speed, moving about the classroom, exploring and learning as their interest is piqued. Yet, it is also a community of learners who help, encourage and teach each other. This productive and supportive classroom community is created through the lessons of Grace and Courtesy that are demonstrated, modeled, and practiced in every classroom.

Students learn to care for themselves, the environment, and one another. In the primary classroom, Grace and Courtesy lessons provide practical information that helps young children adapt to life in a classroom community. Teachers demonstrate and students role play how to use inside voices, walk in the classroom, share learning materials, wait turns patiently, ask to join activities, how to be careful around another child's workspace, and more.

Montessori students are shown what it means to cooperate, how to be a friend, how to express anger in a positive way, and how to solve problems. Elementary students learn to navigate social situations through group problem-solving and community meetings. Through community service, elementary and middle school students learn civic responsibility and the value of being a contributing member of society. In middle school, students develop skills for effective communication, collaborative work, ability to lead others, meeting decorum, discussions and seminars, being personally reliable and responsible, and showing integrity and perseverance.

Dr. Montessori used the phrase Grace and Courtesy to reflect the way in which we endeavor to engage in all of our interactions: with ourselves, with others, and with the environment in which we live. It is an integral part of the Montessori curriculum. Grace and Courtesy lessons help children to become kind and compassionate members of society and provide a solid foundation on which to navigate through their lives.

*Mrs. Mosquera,
Montessori Teacher
Specialist*

Counselor's Corner

Career Exploration

Your student's next classroom visit from the counselors will be to explore and learn more about the opportunities that await them in a possible future careers! Our goal is to teach our students about careers based on interest & skill sets needed to achieve various career pathways. Helping the students make a correlation between school subjects and potential careers is not only an important aspect of the FCPS

counseling curriculum but aligns with the American School Counseling Association guidelines as well. Exploring various jobs, interest inventories and goal setting objectives the students at CCM will not only have the chance to learn about careers, but also get to discover more about their own unique strengths and interests.



Mrs. Adams
Danielle.Adams@fcps.org
Monday- Friday

Mrs. Kamnikar
Elizabeth.Kamnikar@fcps.org
Monday-Thursday

From the Art Room

Kindergarten students are exploring the element of shape as they learn to cut organic, unpredictable, and curvilinear shapes from paper to create monoprints. They are also learning to use the painting center.

Lower Elementary students are learning about the tradition of weaving in the Navajo Nation and creating weavings of their own in natural colors.

Upper Elementary students are practicing exterior, one-point perspective as they create landscapes using a vanishing point and horizon line.

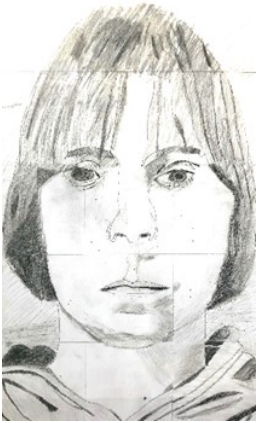
Middle School Gallery students are preparing an exhibition of monoprints by five year old Primary students and one-point perspective interiors by Upper Elementary classes.

Middle School Drawing students continue to develop their self-portrait drawings using a grid to enlarge a selfie.

Middle School Oil Painting students are learning about the Harlem Renaissance and are developing ideas for an oil painting influenced and inspired by this creative period in American history.

Middle School Cartooning students are completing their dynamic flip books and hand bound books.

“All art requires courage.” — Anne Tucker



Mrs. Reed

Music Notes

Kindergarten music classes have started to explore the major scale with the Snowman song on the resonator bars and with solfeggio hand signs. They are also practicing their drumming skills by tapping various quarter and eighth note patterns they hear. The Freeze dance remains popular through these chilly days!

Lower Elementary classes have enjoyed singing the Hot Chocolate song practicing call and response technique. Students are also demonstrating their ability to perform quarter and eighth note patterns on resonator bars and our new metallophone has brought a lot of excitement.



Upper Elementary students began the new year with a three part recorder review consisting of all the rhythm values they have learned throughout their elementary years. They also have extended their clave practice from December to include providing accompaniment to the Hot Chocolate song in the traditional clave pattern. A favorite arrangement of “Gravity Falls” has many of them spanning an octave on the recorder.

Middle School Music

Independent Study: students are preparing selections for their final evaluation to demonstrate their progress on specific instruments.

Music History-Rock n Roll: as the semester ends, students are constructing a timeline tracing the development of Rock n Roll from the 40s to the 60s.

Performing Ensembles:

The Middle School Ensemble concert is Thursday January 24 at 7 pm, here at Carroll Creek.

Elementary ensemble rehearsals start again on February 5th.



Mrs. Reynolds

Spanish Spoken Here

¡Feliz Año Nuevo! Happy New Year! To kick off 2019, students in Middle School, Upper Elementary, and one Lower Elementary class completed a cultural study about how families in Spain (and several Latin American countries) welcome a new year. We learned about their tradition of eating 12 grapes with each chime of the clock at midnight, and with each grape, you make a wish or set a goal. See more (in Spanish) here, <https://bit.ly/2jsFz0V>. As an application of our learning, we generated individual goal lists and translated them into Spanish using the phrase “Yo quiero/I want.” In Middle School, we held a New Year’s Celebration where we watched the recorded broadcast of the 2019

New Year’s countdown in Madrid and ate twelve grapes at the stroke of “midnight.” ¡Fue muy divertido! It was great fun!

In **Primary and Lower Elementary**, we will continue our study of seasons, weather, and clothing. Student goals (as appropriate for each learner) include being able to name the months in each season, use appropriate words and phrases to talk or write about the weather of each season, talk about or write a list of what to wear for each season or for different activities. Upcoming areas of study include personal interests and leisure activities, food, animals, and animal habitats.

In **Upper Elementary**, we have started a cultural study of Colombia with the story of El Biblioburro (the library donkey). It is the true story of a humble librarian who took it upon himself, and his two trusty donkeys, to bring books to children in remote Colombian villages since they did not have easy access to books. It is a true testament to the power of books and a reminder of how even the smallest of actions, like sharing a story, can have a big impact. Read the English version of the storybook at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L-WTJb9IPo> or learn more at <http://www.bbc.com/culture/story/20180410-biblioburro-the-amazing-donkey-libraries-of-colombia> and <https://www.facebook.com/biblioburrocolombia/>. Students will be reading the story of El Biblioburro in appropriately leveled Spanish texts, retelling the story in their own words in Spanish, and exploring more about Colombian life and culture.

Middle School Spanish 1 students will continue conjugating regular –ar verbs in the present tense and will soon incorporate conjugation of regular –er and –ir verbs. Students will also begin a unit of study on family, foods, and expressing feelings. Students in **Middle School Spanish 2** continue to work on vocabulary and phrases for describing their daily routines, including using reflexive verbs in the present tense. Soon they will begin studying vocabulary for clothing and shopping and irregular verbs in the present tense. **Both Spanish 1 and Spanish 2** will include cultural study of cultural elements from Puerto Rico and Mexico. (And FYI, Mrs. Maldonado’s family background is Mexican-American and her husband is Puerto Rican, so she’s practically part Puerto Rican by now, and Mrs. Lopez is from Puerto Rico herself, so the students will have a plethora of expert info at their disposal!)

As always, thank you for supporting the Spanish program here at Carroll Creek and please reach out to us with any questions.

Sra. Maldonado y Sra. Lopez
CCM Spanish Team



Health Room

Hearing and Vision Screening will take place **January 17th** for all students in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten (if not previously screened upon entry in FCPS Pre-K), 1st grade, 8th grade and any new enterers to the Maryland public school system. Maryland State Law mandates this screening. Parents/guardians who have an objection to this screening based on the tenets and/or practice of their church or religion must submit a request for their child to be exempt from screening. All written requests must be submitted to the health room by January 14th. **Please make sure if your child wears glasses or contacts that they have them on the screening days.** If you have any questions please contact the health room at 240-578-0504.



Physical Education

Kindergarten students have started learning about the basics of throwing and catching. We focus primarily on the underhand throw where we learn about the dominant hand, stepping with the opposite foot, swinging your arm like a clock, and following through the throw. This is a difficult skill for students at this age but we spend a lot of time practicing so that we are prepared to be successful in the future. Students have many opportunities to practice this skill by throwing at targets

at different heights and distances, some might be on the wall and some might be on the ground. Primary students are always moving in P.E. whether it be during our warm-ups or group activities we make sure to get plenty of cardiovascular exercise!

Lower Elementary, Upper Elementary, and Middle School have all finished up their volleyball units. The primary skills that are learned during this unit are underhand

volleying, overhead volleying, and serving. This is a difficult unit in our space because of the lower ceiling but we make it work! Students begin by learning about the history of volleyball and key aspects of the game (rules, players, points, court rotation). We all begin by starting with a balloon, this makes it a little bit easier for students to grasp the concept rally volleying. Once students feel comfortable we move on to a beach ball and progress from that point. This year many of the classes challenged themselves to see how many volleys they could

get during one class and I was very impressed to see the progress they made from day one and even from last year!

Our next unit will be Magic Club which is a progressive throwing and catching skill unit. As always I can be contacted through e-mail if you have any questions or concerns. Stay healthy and active during this winter season!

Mr. Hickman



All are invited to join the GC (even if it is just to observe) at the next GC meeting on Wednesday, February 13, 2019 @ 7:00 pm in the CCMPCS middle school classroom. Meeting dates have also transitioned in the new year. GC meetings are now being held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. One of the biggest tasks on the current agenda is the completion of the Annual Report for the 2017-2018 school year which is submitted to the Board of Education. This Annual Report will be reviewed at a BOE meeting on February 27. We have many positive things to share in the report. Attendance continues to be an area of concern for our school.

Many thanks to our outgoing GC members and especially to chair Molly Carlson for the time, talents, and service they gave to our school. And many thanks to their families for sharing them with us.

Regards,
Carrie Jean Rathmell
CCM GC Chair

Tidbits from our GC

Dear CCM Community,

I am honored to be writing to you for the first time as the new chair of the CCM Governing Council. My family is in our 3rd year at CCM. We won the lottery in 2016 which provided our child Halsey, who is now in kindergarten, the opportunity to join CCM as a PreK3 student. We entered the lottery having researched Montessori enough to think that it was worth the effort to enter the lottery, never dreaming that we would actually be selected to enroll. Becoming a Montessori family has been life changing for every member of our family. As I continue to learn more about Montessori and our school, I continue to find new things to love.

As we welcome the newly elected parent representative members to the GC in January, we have new parent representatives leading the Fundraising, Finance, and Staffing & Admissions committees. We also have

returning parent reps transitioning to chair a different committee in the new year, with Kate Chasse changing from Finance to Involvement & Communication, Bonnie White changing from Involvement & Communication to Education & Curriculum, and myself, Carrie Jean Rathmell, changing from Education & Curriculum to GC Chair. A chart of the GC Leadership including contact information is linked here. Your GC is here to represent you and to serve the school. We welcome you to contact any member of the GC to share ideas, ask questions, or raise concerns. Please contact GC members by email at the address listed on the GC chart. Also feel free to talk to us in person when you see us at school. I currently work part-time for the Frederick County Public Libraries and have reserved time on my days off for CCM GC work and appointments