



Carroll Creek Communicator

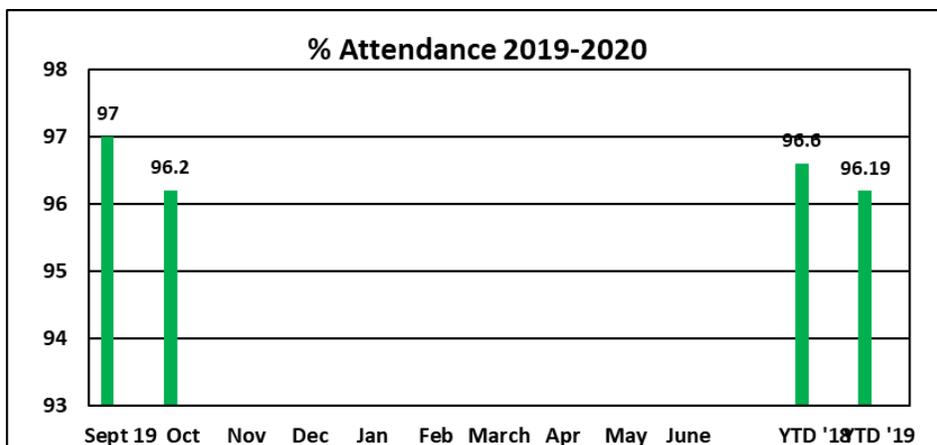


Charter School Governance

It is election time for our CCM Governing Council and MMCI Board of Trustees. While it seems as though every year is an important year in the life of our school, this year is particularly crucial as we look toward the possibility of changing locations. There are a lot of decisions to be made and tasks to be completed. We still have a couple of openings that need to be filled. Please contact our GC Chair, Carrie Rathmel, if you think you could dedicate some of your volunteer hours to help our school—WE NEED YOU! The annual meeting when the new positions are voted on will be held November 14 at MVM. We will also be discussing our future facilities at this meeting.

Another essential responsibility of our GC and MMCI groups is to maintain and validate the adherence to our Charter. Information has been compiled and shared with the Dr. Alban, Superintendent of FCPS, and she will be making her recommendation as to the renewal status of our school at the November BOE meeting. The BOE will then vote on that recommendation at their December 11th meeting. We would really appreciate your support by attending this meeting.

Below is a graph of our attendance at for September and for Year To Date compared to this time last year. Attendance is an area where families are vital to our success. Please ensure your child attends school every day and arrives on time, ready to learn.



11-5	Yankee Fundraiser Ends
11-6	Insight Observation—MS
11-6	Outdoor School- 6th Grade
11-7	End of 1st Term
11-7	Outdoor School— 6th Grade
11-7	Middle School Movie—Harriet
11-7	Clubs Chess, Writing
11-8	No School—Teacher Work Day
11-13	Rescue Mission—Middle School
11-13	6:00 Facilities Mtg 7:00 GC MTG
11-14	Picture Make Ups
11-14	Clubs Chess, Garden, Writing
11-14	7:00 MMCI Annual Meeting @ MVM
11-18	6:00 Parent Ed Night – Spanish
11-19	Rescue Mission—Middle School
11-21	Clubs Chess, Writing
11-26	Academy of Fine Arts visiting MS
11-27	School closed for Thanksgiving
12-2	Back to School
12-4	7:00 MMCI
12-5	7:00 Elementary Music Ensemble

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

The greatest sign of success for a teacher is to be able to say, "The children are now working as if I did not exist."

Maria Montessori



The Magic Inside the Montessori Classroom

Over the past two months, parents have participated in classroom Insight Observations. Invariably, after each observation, parents new to and experienced with Montessori come away having learned something new about the Montessori Method. This time spent in their child's classroom provides a sense of reassurance, awe, and respect regarding how students in Montessori classrooms learn.

Inside the classroom, younger and older students work together, students independently choose meaningful and challenging work, and they treat each other, the teachers, and the classroom environment with respect. Students work individually and are given time to work through various tasks and responsibilities at their own pace without interruption. The teacher acts as a guide, leading students to new lessons and challenges, supporting and monitoring the students' work and providing individual and small-group lessons. Most importantly, the classroom is uniquely suited to the needs of its students.

"The classroom is like an adult work space. The students are given the grace and dignity to choose how and when to complete their work and take care of needs, such as going to the bathroom, making a cup of tea, or eating snacks, in their own time."

"It is refreshing to see that students have the time to work with materials, make mistakes, notice their mistakes, and correct them independently. They aren't rushing through tasks and they are not interrupted while completing their work."

"The adults spoke with each of the children respectfully, guiding them in their decision making, answering questions, discussing their learning, and assessing student understanding."

"It was wonderful to see the happiness of the children and adults, the steady hum of work, and the beautiful rhythm in the classroom."

If you have a chance this year, schedule some time to observe in your child's classroom. It is well worth the time!

*Mrs. Mosquera,
Montessori Teacher
Specialist*

Counselor's Corner

Happy fall Carroll Creek Montessori families! Throughout the month of October, the schools' counseling department has been going into the classrooms and delivering lessons on bullying and positive peer interactions.

In 2006, October was recognized as National bullying prevention month. Frederick County Public School takes bullying very seriously and has a zero-tolerance policy. Bullying has devastating effects on students like increased anxiety, depression, school avoidance, and loss of self-esteem.

Lessons on bullying prevention and positive peer interaction educates students on the negative effects bullying has on others, spreads social and emotional awareness, and encourages them to be positive friends and peers. Students were able to engage in discussions and activities to demonstrate their understanding of bullying and ability to make positive and upstanding choices.

If you feel your child may be or know of a student who is a victim of bullying please reach out to the school counseling department and/or administration. The bullying/harassment form for FCPS can be filled out by students, teachers, and parents: <https://education.fcps.org/publicforms/bullying>. Every student deserves the right to come to school feeling safe, comfortable and confident. If you would like more information and resources on bullying and bullying prevention please visit:

<https://www.nasponline.org/>

<https://www.cfchildren.org/resources/bullying-prevention-resources/>

<https://www.stopbullying.gov>



Danielle Adams
Danielle.Adams@fcps.org
M-F 9:00am-2:00pm

Brittany Bishop
Brittany.Bishop@fcps.org
Mon. & Wed. 8:30am-4:00pm

From the Art Room



Square 1 Art has been shipped. This is an annual fundraiser for our art program. Order packets will arrive in early November. Your children will receive a page of stickers of their original artwork and you can order a variety of items decorated with your child's art if you like.

Kindergarten students continue to explore the elements of art. Ask them which elements they are using in their "Taking a Line for a Walk" project.

Lower and Upper Elementary have been learning about the characteristics of Ancient Egyptian art. They are creating beginning-of-the-year self-portraits and incorporating at least one of the characteristics. Ask them which characteristic from Ancient Egyptian art they are choosing to include in their self-portrait.

Middle School Illustration students created original illustrations for an op-ed article and are working on character driven illustrations. Ask them to share the title or subject of their op-ed article.

Middle School Drawing students are continuing to develop their grid drawings and are learning to develop charcoal drawings of the still-life using the subtractive method. Ask them how they use the grid to create realistic proportions in their drawings.

"All art requires courage." — Anne Tucker

Mrs. Reed

Music Notes

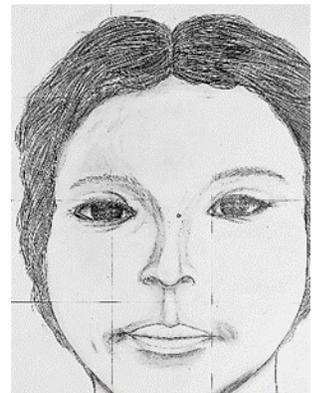
Kindergarten music classes have been excited to explore various music classroom percussion instruments with the rhythm rhyme "Five Little Pumpkins." Students have played sandblocks, claves, tambourines, the round xylophone, the vibraslap, suspended cymbal, chimes, and tubanos to provide sound effects for the rhyme. Classes have also enjoyed the "Clap, Stomp, Shake" dance as well as Animal Action and the "Tree Song," moving through the seasons in the life of an apple tree.

Lower Elementary classes are deep in the study of African music as students learn a three part tubano ensemble as well as the welcome song, Funga Alafia. We are using African dance moves to illustrate our fishing stories. Students will be writing their own stories that we will perform throughout the rest of the year.

Upper Elementary music students have continued studying the many parts of "Banuwa" by practicing the complimentary drum parts while others sing and dance. They have also explored the talking drum through drum conversation activities and call and response lessons. Classes are now working on improvisation in a drum circle setting as they listen to others' rhythms and contribute their own complementary rhythm.

Middle school general music has transitioned from World Percussion to independent study on keyboard, guitar, and even ukuleles. Students will have a combination of technique and theory classes as they set individual performance goals for themselves.

Performing Ensembles: both our Elementary and Middle School groups are hard at work preparing for their concerts. Elementary Chorus will perform here at Carroll Creek on Thursday December 5 at 7pm.



Spanish Spoken Here

¡Saludos from the Spanish classroom! In addition to our continuing work on high frequency grammar and vocabulary in context, we have also taken time this month to do a cultural study of Día de Los Muertos, or Day of the Dead. All classes have discussed how this celebration is different from Halloween and is a time to celebrate family and good memories. We will have a school ofrenda in the front lobby again this year, so please stop by during the last week of October to add a photo of a deceased loved one or to simply admire the student work on display!

Spanish 1 – Students listened to a Spanish telling of La Leyenda del Cempasúchitl (The Legend of the Marigold Flower). This beautiful Aztec legend tells the story of two young people torn apart by war, and how their love compelled the sun god to transform them into a marigold and hummingbird so that they could be together for all eternity. Read or watch to learn more. We discussed how during Día de Los Muertos celebrations, homes and altars are adorned with marigolds as it is believed that their scent and vibrant color help guide the spirits of deceased loved ones back to their families. Students also created their own tissue paper marigolds to display them on the school ofrenda.

Upper Elementary – In these classes, we did an in-depth comparison of Halloween and Día de Los Muertos including common misconceptions, origins of both celebrations, and modern interpretations of each. We also discovered the significance of foods like pan de muerto (bread of the dead) and calaveras de azúcar (sugar skulls). Students studied traditional designs and images used on sugar skulls and then used these designs to create their own paper calaveras to add to the school ofrenda.



Lower Elementary A & B – Lower Elementary A & B explored the ties between Día de Los Muertos and the monarch butterfly migration. Students explored the book *Señorita Mariposa* and learned the accompanying song. They sound ADORABLE when they sing. We then made our own painted paper monarch butterflies to add to the ofrenda. Students completed a short Spanish writing assignment to dedicate their butterfly to someone special that has passed away, and these will also be included in the ofrenda.

Thank you for your support of Spanish at CCM!
Marisa Maldonado, Spanish teacher

¡Hola Padres de CCM!

Spanish 2 Class Spanish two students have been introduced to the foundations of the Spanish past tenses. We have read the story *la cebra y el león* (the zebra and the lion) and *la muchacha y la ardilla* (the girl and the squirrel). We have a new activity in the class called *Canta Ninja* (Ninja Singer) where every Monday the song of the week is played and one student per day chooses when listen to it. This is another way to bring language input and learning in the class. This past week the students did the Day of the Death activity where they write about someone (person or animal) that has passed away.

Primary Class Primary friends have been learning about farm animals. They learn the name and the sound (que dice). They learn who the perro (dog), pollito (little chick), gato (cat), pato (duck), caballo (horse), gallina (chicken/hen) and vaca (cow). I introduce to them the song about los pollitos dicen (the little chicks say) and las ruedas del camion (the wheels of the bus). They have played *papa caliente* (hot potato) where they pass a ball singing *¿Como te llamas tu?* (what is your name? and when we stop singing the person holding the ball needs to said “me llamo... and tell her/his name. This past week they also learned about the life cycle of the Monarch butterfly, where they live during summer and where they migrate in winter (Michoacán, Mexico).

Lower Elementary Class Our lower elementary students have been learning about farm animals. They have learned the name and the sound (que dice). They learned who the perro (dog), pollito (little chick), gato (cat), pato (duck), caballo (horse), gallina (chicken/hen) and vaca (cow). We read the book about los animales dicen (animals say). I introduced to them the song about los pollitos dicen (the little chicks say) and las ruedas del camion (the wheels of the bus). Students learn how to ask people for their names; *como te llamas?* And answered *me llamo...and tell their names.* This past week they learned about the life cycle of the Monarch butterfly, where they live during summer and where they migrate in winter (Michoacán, Mexico). They watched videos about how Mexico celebrate Día de los Muertos and how the forest in Michoacán, Mexico sound when the butterfly is in. They also made *papel picado* to decorate our Dia de los Muertos altar.

Thank you for your support of Spanish at CCM!
Zuleima Lopez, Spanish teacher

Physical Education

Kindergarten P.E. classes have continued to master their warm-up routine using locomotor movements and basic stretches. Students have been working on underhand throwing and using the correct throwing technique (stepping in opposition, body facing target, and following through). Kindergarten students always enjoy our group games together but it does take awhile for everyone to get comfortable with space awareness and body control but nonetheless we are always moving and having fun!

LE, UE, and Middle School have all just finished up the basketball unit. All grade-levels progress at a different rate and complete different challenges but we are all working on the skills of: dribbling with the hands, passing with the hands, and shooting. Students complete challenges through solo and group activities that emphasize these skills. Once the students become more comfortable with the skills of the game we can move onto more game like activities. We have soccer coming up next and its always a favorite among the students.

Just a reminder that if your child is sick or injured to the point where they cannot participate, please send them in with a note explaining the situation. Another reminder that all students should have sneakers on P.E. days, other shoes make it unsafe for students to be physically active.



Mr. Hickman

Tidbits from our GC

Mark Your Calendars:

- **Thursday, November 14 7:00 pm @ MVM** (217 Dill Avenue Frederick, MD 21701): MMCI Annual Meeting - come participate in annual elections for candidates for the CCM Governing Council and MMCI Board of Trustees, vote for amendments to the by-laws and other items requiring input of the full community, and receive updates about MMCI and its schools.
- **Monday, November 25** (time and location to be determined): FCPS Board of Education meeting - FCPS Superintendent, Dr. Alban, will present her recommendations for CCM's Charter Renewal to the Board of Education. If you can't attend in person, BOE meetings are streamed live and the videos are archived on the Board Docs website: <https://go.boarddocs.com/mabe/fcps/Board.nsf/Public>
- **Wednesday, December 11** (time and location to be determined): FCPS Board of Education meeting - CCM Leadership will field questions from the Board of Education prior to the Board of Education vote for CCM Charter Renewal. If you can't attend in person, BOE meetings are streamed live and the videos are archived on the Board Docs website: <https://go.boarddocs.com/mabe/fcps/Board.nsf/Public>



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