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## CCM Communicator - End of 2021-2022 School Year Archived

Marilyn Horan • about 2 months ago • Friday, May 20 at 8:32 AM • Carroll Creek Montessori Public Charter

School



### Mission

#### 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.

### Principals Message

This year has been another like none before it. We have had contact tracing. We have had assigned seating/work spaces. There were masks then voluntary masking. Assessments came back. Some days felt like they lasted 48 hours while the months have flown by. How did we get to the end of the year already? The final 12 days of school will be packed with celebrations and traditions that will end our 2021-2022 school year. Please review the calendar dates below carefully not only for activities that will bring this year to a close, but also for important dates as school starts in the fall.



Preschool 4 year olds will be continue to attend school all day next year. We have seen huge academic and social benefits from this experience with our current 4 year old students and this fits with Preschool for All legislation. Kindergarten students will also benefit from an early start date this year (August 8th), similar to last year.



Saturday, May 21st we will celebrate 10 years as a community! Our school has experienced amazing success having gone from 629 applicants the year we opened in 2012 to 1890 applicants for the 35 available seats for the 2022-2023 school year. Our Spanish program has grown to include not only high school Spanish II classes, but also a Montessori Spanish Experience class for those eighth grade students who have advanced past Spanish II that delves deep into Hispanic culture, literature and current events. Middle school students were part of CCM for the first year in 2016. The spring of 2017 we moved into the expanded portion of our school. Hopefully you will be able to attend the celebration on the 21st to learn more about the history of our school and celebrate everything CCM!

The staff would like to extend our sincere thank you to each family member who celebrated us during teacher appreciation week. You all out did yourselves. Every day we were treated to amazing food or written banners/notes. It was an amazing way to touch the hearts of each adult who works at CCM.

*thank you*

Marilyn Horan, Principal

### Upcoming Events

- 5.21** - 10th Anniversary Celebration (10:00am outside in back of school - bring lawn chairs)
- 5.24** - Energy assembly
- 5.25** - Field Day (P4 will dismiss at 11:10) (Pick up for K-8 will be at Ballenger Creek Park)
- 5.26** - Tree Trekkers - Smith
- 5.26** - 8th Grade Celebration (6:00pm @ Sky Stage)
- 5.27** - Tree Trekkers - Gouge
- 5.27** - Last day to return library books
- 5.30** - Memorial Day - no school
- 6.1** - GC Meeting
- 6.3** - Career Day
- 6.7** - Early Dismissal/Last Day of School (1:45)
- 8.8** - First Day for Kindergarten - Parents should plan to bring their child in with their supplies
- 8.15** - Open House (bring supplies and visit classrooms) (kindergarten dismissal 12:00)
  - 1:00 - 1:20 P3, 1, 4
  - 1:30 - 1:50 P4, 2, 5, 7
  - 2:00 - 2:20 3, 6, 8
- 8.17** First Day P4-8th grade
- 8.29** First Day P3
- 8.30** Back to School Night 7:00-8:00



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### Counselors Corner



Summer is different for each family. Whether you are a parent who gets to stay home with your kids, or you work year round. There is still an importance in how your students' experience their summer. Having a balance of routine and unstructured time is important for . It can be hard to think of something to engage your children in.

As a pre-summer idea, sit down with your students' and create a list, or a calendar, of some things you want to do together this summer.

Take note of when you are going to do these things, whether it is during your week day or evening, or on the weekends. Check out the Frederick County site to find some fun and free things to add to your list

<https://www.visitfrederick.org/things-to-do/>



Children's Mental Health Awareness Week was May 1-7, 2022. We care so much about the mental health of our students, as their well-being and behavior affects them in the classroom on a daily basis. Even when we are not available during the summer to provide support or resources, there are an abundance of resources for families and students to rely on via the MD Children's Mental Health Matters Campaign website. These resources are truly amazing for prepping your student for back to school! Please never hesitate to

reach out to us for support, or with student concerns.

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthmatters.org/resources/downloads/>

Kindly,

Danielle Adams, Counselor

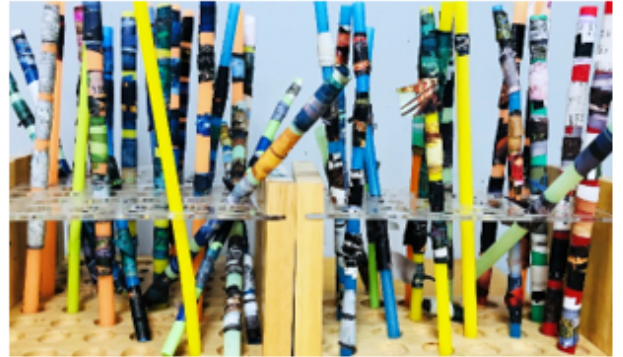
Kathleen McNamara, Counselor

**From the Art Room**



**Kindergarten** students are focusing on color theory as they create sun and moon, warm and cool color artworks. They are incorporating weaving into their projects with a variety of warm and cool color yarns.

**Lower Elementary** have completed their complimentary color, paper molas and are practicing the realistic proportions of the face as they prepare to create their end-of-the-year self-portraits.



**Upper Elementary** students are creating colorful papier mache beads using recycled papers. They are also preparing to create their end-of-the-year self-portraits.



**Middle School Sculpture** students are completing their inventive wearable art projects and creating armatures for their final papier mache sculptures which will explore a connection between contemporary artists and the students' own interests in current social issues.

**Middle School Oil Painting** students are developing light and depth in their still-life paintings by applying a monochromatic, mid tone layer first, a layer of highlights and shadows next, then a glazing layer with transparent colors, and a final layer of highlights and shadows. – Mrs. Reed

"All art requires courage" - Anne Tucker

Lisa Reed, Art Teacher

**Music Notes**



## Kindergarten

Classes are spending the last few weeks of the school year getting ready for music in Lower Elementary. Students are learning to read, write, and compose rhythm patterns with notation basics such as quarter notes, eighth notes, and quarter rests. Students are expanding their knowledge and practice of solfeggio singing by using the Curwen hand signs for the entire major scale. Classes are also having fun learning the 3 part Fish n Chips song, and playing shakers to the Caribbean tune "Go Mango Walk."



## Lower Elementary

As kindergarteners get ready for Lower Elementary, 3rd graders are preparing for Upper Elementary! Classes are studying components of the treble clef, first learning the names of lines, then the spaces in between. We will also explore the notes above and below the staff. We'll use this knowledge to play short melodies on the orff instruments like xylophones and glockenspiels. Classes will finish up with a bit of piano keyboard study as well.



Ginestera

## Upper Elementary

Students are taking advantage of nice weather and spending outdoor time honing their recorder skills. Veteran students are paired up with "newbies," teaching them the basics through echoing and modeling. Classes finished up their study of Latin percussion and rhythms with many student led drum circles. Our South American continent study featured composers like Arturo Marquez and Alberto Ginestera who wrote music reflecting ranch life in Argentina.

## Middle School

### Independent Study

Keyboard: students are finishing the semester with major scale construction and demonstrating progress on their student choice songs. Some students are providing bass accompaniment for guitars and ukuleles on the Beatles hit, "Eleanor Rigby," while others are serving as sound engineers playing sound effects for our drama skits.

Guitar and Ukulele: students are also working on major scale construction and playing, as well as practicing melody notes and chord changing skills with "playalongs" for You Are My Sunshine, Eleanor Rigby, and Ode to Joy.

### Drama:

Students spent most of the 4th quarter working on short comedy skits with themes like going to a movie, a family road trip, customer service, and selling lemonade. Groups have been extremely creative with props, character traits, and presentation styles of their short comedy skits, and entertained our Upper Elementary audience with their final performances. A special video presentation to families will be arranged before the end of the school year.



***Performing Ensembles:** Our groups are taking a well deserved break after their May 19th success!*

Mary Lou Reynolds, Music Teacher

## Spanish Spoken Here

¡Hola familias de CCM!

What a wonderful year of Spanish we have had! As the year ends, it is an important time for us to check in on student growth. In mid-May, students in grades 3, 6, and 8 completed a national Spanish exam called STAMP that measures their current proficiency in Spanish Reading, Listening, Writing, and Speaking. Score reports will be sent home with term 4 report cards for students who tested.

In other news, the Spanish Storybook Project tradition continues! At the end of each year, middle school students in Spanish 2 and MSE become official Spanish authors and write a children's storybook entirely in Spanish. They add digital or hand-drawn illustrations, print their books in color, laminate, and bind them for durability. Finally, they visit Lower Elementary students at a *Fiesta de Libros* to read their books to the younger students and connect with them in Spanish. The storybooks then live forever in the Spanish classroom library for future classes to enjoy. You can view a video of this year's event [HERE](#) or on our CCM Community Facebook page.



Students in the classes listed below worked on a joint cultural extension project to explore the history of *Talavera* tiles traditionally made in Puebla, México as part of our exploration of Cinco de Mayo's origins. Students then used their understanding of the traditional designs to create their own paper *talavera* tiles using symmetry, nature motifs, and bright colors. Please read below for more details about what each level is exploring.

- **Montessori Spanish Experience** - MSE students expanded on their previous knowledge of Cinco de Mayo's origins and examined various elements of the celebration, such as mariachi music and piñatas. This group will follow traditional methods to create their own personal piñatas.
- **MS Spanish 2** – Spanish 2 students reviewed the history of the Battle of Puebla and examined an authentic infographic to learn details about the event. They are also working through biographies of *31 Mujeres Importantes* (31 Important Women) that describe women from all around the world who made history or impacted change.
- **MS & 6th Grade Spanish 1** – These classes received introductory lessons on the origin of Cinco de Mayo and its association with cultural pride. They also completed an exploration of one of Mexico's most famous songs called *Cielito Lindo*. They learned about the composer as well as several singers/groups who have interpreted the song and voted for their personal favorite version.
- **Upper Elementary A** – After reading the novel *Llama en Lima*, students completed several listening and writing works to show their comprehension of key grammar structures and cultural content from the novel. They then completed several reading works about the history of Cinco de Mayo and *talavera* tiles.

Please let me know if you have any questions about your child's progress. Thank you for your support!

**Marisa Maldonado**, Spanish Teacher



It is unbelievable to think that we are only a few weeks away from finishing this school year. We are so grateful for being able to work with your children and see the growth every single one has made. They have worked very hard to grow their vocabulary and reading skills in Spanish.

UE and LE A classes have been working with a very fun and adventures capibara call Carlos. The students have been reading this novel and working hard to learning the target grammar provided in the book. They have shown great understanding of the story. The students are able to create simple sentences with the vocabulary and translate the chapters.

LE Groups B and C have been working in the novel Edi el Elefante. The students have been learning about cognates and vocabulary like: quiere, no quiere, grande, pequeno, conteto, etc. They created simple phrases together on the board with these vocabulary words. They are able to read the content and change the words ensuring it makes sense, sometimes creating silly phrases. Students are working very hard to translate while reading. The end of the week the students review everything they have worked on with Jueves de Juegos, which is a game that helps them remember and used all the knowledge from the previous days.

Primary students have been working in the unit Gatos-Gatos. They have learned all the colors and numbers to twenty. They practice all the vocabulary they have learned throughout the year through games and songs like

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jz69JxNznWA&list=RDJz69JxNznWA&start\\_radio=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jz69JxNznWA&list=RDJz69JxNznWA&start_radio=1)

The students have learned the concepts tengo-no tengo, gato, abuela and many more. We feel so proud of every single student! Have a great summer break!

Isabel Schmitz, Spanish Teacher

**Physical Education**



Artwork by Leila Maldonado

# PE HAPPENINGS!

May 2022

"Athletics are great. But physical education is for every youngster -- to help them learn about themselves, learn about their bodies, learn ways to become physically active but not necessarily to compete,..."

-George Graham, PH.D.

## What are we doing this month?

### Kindergarten & Early Elementary

- Introduction to field day activities
- Throwing with power to a stationary object, moving target
- Cooperative learning focused upon sportsmanship and winning/losing with grace.

### Upper Elementary and Middle

- Introduction to field day activities
- "Gagaster" Ball - focuses on striking with power to a moving target in a dynamic environment.
- Outdoor games include capture the football, link tag, over/under kickball, and cooperative games.



## Extra Notes:

As the weather starts to cooperate, middle school as well as upper elementary students will be moving and playing outside in a variety of games and activities. "Gagaster" Ball is a combination of two games, Gaga Ball and Monster Ball. It focuses on underhand striking at a moving target. We are also playing Ultimate football, kickball, and capture the football which incorporates throwing, catching, and agility skills. As field day approaches, the students will be introduced to many of the field day activities that they will be participating in that day.

Lower Elementary and Kindergarten students are working on throwing to a target with force. Monster Ball is a fun activity that utilizes these skills and allows the students to work cooperatively to move the Monster Ball with the force of their throws. We have also been reinforcing healthy competition by discussing the qualities of a good teammate, a graceful winner as well as a graceful loser. Teaching the importance of healthy competition will hopefully facilitate the goal of cooperative learning and working together for the success of the team/group.

Kerry Grimm, PE Teacher

### Tidbits From Our GC

Thank you to all of the parents and families who volunteered their time, and efforts as well as to all those who donated, our community is what keeps up going!!



I hope everyone has a wonderful summer and THE GC looks forward to more events and gatherings in the future.

Join us for the next virtual meeting:

MMCI Board of Trustees: TBD

Facilities Task Force: Wednesday, June 1 6-7pm

CCM Governing Council: Wednesday, June 1 7pm

MMCI Board of Trustees: Wednesday, June 29 7pm