

Carroll Creek Communicator - October 2022

Marilyn Horan • about 1 month ago • Saturday, Oct 1 at 3:52 PM • **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

Fall is here and with it has come busy, busy times at CCM. Parent/Teacher conferences are later this month which will give our teachers time to share with you the progress your child has made so far this year. We are looking forward to spending this time with you. We recognize the extra effort it takes during conference week to adjust to the change in schedule and truly appreciate each family's dedication to our school as a whole as we provide opportunities to make these connections. Lunch will be served each day for those students who would like to have lunch at school. Breakfast will also be served on Friday of conference week. Our P3 students will not come to school on conference days.

(Wednesday, Thursday and Friday). Please be sure to sign up for a conference with your child's teacher as soon as possible. Our special area teachers as well as our counselors have also posted times for families to meet with them if they so choose.





Maria Montessori was a true scientist who observed children in their environment and through these observations and research developed the philosophy and methodology we use today in Montessori schools. The adults in a Montessori learning environment provide opportunities for children to learn at their own pace and interest while ensuring they reach the expectations of the county and state.

Children can not learn everything while inside a building which is why we work to take field trips that connect to the learning that is being done in the classroom while building confidence and independence. Classes have already gone camping and gone to Tree Trekkers, and Upward Enterprises. We have also had parents visit to share about their home countries which has been amazing! As you can see in the calendar, there are many learning opportunities outside the building planned for the month of October. The extra planning and preparation by the adults is has a multitude of benefits for our students. Thank you for supporting these experiences outside our building!

The beginning of school has also had celebrations that have reminded us of our connections to each other as well as our environment. Maria Montessori's birthday was celebrated in classes August 31st and International Day of Peace was September 21st. Each classroom honored Maria Montessori in their classrooms, but we were able to gather together outside for our first assembly of the year for the International Day of Peace celebration. Every student had a part in presentations during the ceremony with the middle school music ensemble accompanying the student body as the event ended with "Light a Candle for Peace" in both English and Spanish. Such a lovely tradition! Our students participated in community service activities such as the middle school students sprucing up our school grounds and using chalk to send peaceful messages to those who enter the building. An upper elementary class did an amazing job cleaning up the Peace Garden and added some new flowers. One of our lower elementary classes tidying up our grounds each Friday!



Our Governing Council and our non-profit organization, Monocacy Montessori Communities, Incorporated, have been working diligently on facilities over the past several months. This work is critical to the life of our school. If you would like to know more about the progress being made and how you can help, please attend the next **GC** or MMCI meeting.



Thank you for such a positive response to the change in our arrival/dismissal procedures. We are having fewer backups onto Crestwood which was the main goal. Please remember to turn RIGHT as you leave the school property and turn around in front of the Hilton to help keep traffic flowing smoothly and safely. Patience and grace and courtesy have been evident each morning and afternoon from our families - thank you!

Please remember that we will not be dismissing students from the office after 3:30 (2:30 on Fridays) so our students and staff can prepare for the whole school dismissal. There will be no one to answer phone calls between 3:40 and 4:00 (2:40 and 3:00 on Fridays) due to dismissal. If your child has a transportation change, please email their teacher and **Mrs. Pelan** before 3:00 (2:00 on Fridays). Thank you for understanding as we work to safely and efficiently dismiss each child in our care.

Upcoming Even

10.4 CCM Facilities Meeting 6:00pm

10.4 CCM GC Meeting @ 7:00pm

10.5 Yom Kippur - Schools Closed

10.6 Camping - Mrs. Gouge's Class

10.6 Chess Club Starts @ 4:00

10.12 Parent/Teacher Conferences 12:40 arrival for students - No P3 (4:00 dismissal)

10.12 Movie Field Trip - Middle School

10.13 Parent/Teacher Conferences 12:40 arrival for students - No P3 (4:00 dismissal)

10.14 Parent/Teacher Conferences 11:15 dismissal - No P3

10.19 CCM Facilities Meeting @ 7:00

10.20 Teacher Work Day - Schools Closed

10.21 Teacher Professional Learning Day - Schools Closed for Students

10.24 Fountain Rock Field Trip - Middle School

10.26 National Aquarium Field Trip - Lower Elementary

10.26 MMCI Meeting @ 7:00

11.2 CCM Facilities Meeting @ 6:00pm

11:2 CCM GC Meeting @ 7:00pm

11.3 Mexican Cultural Institute Field Trip - MSE Class



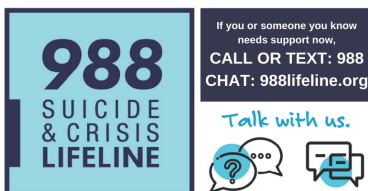
Investigating all the tiny things while camping with Ms. Smith's class.

Counselors Corner

Please welcome Mrs. James as our new addition to the School Counseling team! Mrs. James was a school counselor/student support specialist for seven years before staying home with her two children.

Originally from Winchester, VA, Mrs. James and her husband relocated to downtown Frederick in 2013. In addition to supporting students, Mrs. James enjoys gardening, bike riding and crafting. She looks forward to getting to know the students and families of CCM!

As school counselors, we will be holding small groups with students that focus on specific needs and skills. We continue to teach a lesson in each classroom, once a month. Our September lessons varied topics dependent upon grades, which included; identifying and expressing emotions/feelings in primary, self-esteem in lower elementary, bullying in upper elementary, and suicide prevention in middle school. Our October lessons will cover new topics.



Coming up in October:

National Bullying Prevention/Awareness Month

Parent/Teacher Conferences: Counselors will also have conferences. These are not mandatory to attend, but on a needs basis.

8th Grade parents will be receiving communication from Mrs. James in regards to High School preparation/registration! Please be sure to know where your student will be attending High School.

Kathleen McNamara, Counselor

Megan James, Counselor

We meet with students individually to listen to their needs, offer advice or support, to work through peer issues, and/or support them in advocating for themselves. In the month of September we have worked through several situations that required discussions about bullying and being inclusive of others.



As School Counselors we use brief-solution focused counseling, as the goal is to help students get to a place where they can learn. Outside of this individual counseling, we are able to offer outside resources for further supports upon parent request or need.

We support our school with the following; Attendance, 504s, Community and Homeless Liaison, Testing Coordinator, High School Registration, etc.



Kindergarten-Sixth Grade students are completing their beginning of the year self-portraits and creating independent works at the drawing center that introduce and review the elements and principles of art.

Middle School 3D Design students are building their three-dimensional "art cars" with working wheel and axle systems.



Middle School Nature as Inspiration for Art students are completing their preparatory landscape sketches and beginning their large final diptych using markers and watercolor pencils on paper. -Mrs. Reed

Art is about paying attention. -Laurie Anderson



Lisa Reed, Art Teacher

Music Notes

Kindergarten classes are continuing to focus on classroom routine, extending now to using some of our most basic instruments. Students are using egg shakers to accompany the chicken song and "La Vaca Lola." Students have enjoyed playing "Hunt the Cows," requiring them to take turns as the rooster to wake everyone else up.



Lower Elementary students are using African dance moves to "perform" fishing stories they have written for creative movement. They follow the drum pattern, and chant expressive phrases for events in the story while performing specific movements to represent walking, casting a net, and carrying fish to market. Classes are now singing "Fish n Chips" in a three part round, with 3rd graders, and even some 2nd graders being section leaders!



Upper Elementary classes have been exploring African instruments. Students have used gankogui, shekere, take, djembes, and talking drums to play multi-rhythm drumming arrangements, call and response, and improvisational activities. Students are also brushing up on note reading skills to prepare for playing the recorder. If your child still needs to purchase one, log into their schoolcash online account and look for the UE recorder option.

Middle School

- Music History class has just finished the Blues unit, with students composing and playing their own 12 Bar Blues compositions
- Drama class has been exploring 3 word skits, Fairy Tale Tableaus, and looking at the silent movie genre and how facial expressions told the stories
- Performing Ensemble; our Peace Assembly performance was fantastic! Students will now focus on their Winter Concert selections for **December 15**.

Elementary Performing Ensemble: Winter Concert is December 8

Mary Lou Reynolds, Music Teacher

Spanish Spoken Here

¡Hola familias de CCM!

Happy Hispanic Heritage Month! This nationally recognized month runs from September 15 to October 15 every year. We honor Hispanic cultures every day in class at CCM, but this month is a time to engage in special learning opportunities. Please read below to learn about what students have been working on in my classes.

- **Montessori Spanish Experience** – MSE has been exploring the true story of a teacher from Colombia named Luis Soriano who created a traveling library to bring much-needed books to children in his rural community. Since road travel isn't very easy in the mountainous areas where he lives, he uses his two donkeys! Students have been working on retelling the story of "El Biblioburro" in their own words in Spanish. This class will have a field trip coming up in early November, so please stay tuned for info on that!
- **MS Spanish 2** – Spanish 2 is currently exploring language related to "*comidas tradicionales*" or traditional foods of Spanish-speaking countries. We also learned about how changing demographics are affecting the "American" diet and influencing the types of foods and flavors available in US markets. We also have several food preparation activities in the coming weeks, so that is exciting!
- **MS Spanish 1** – This class has just finished a unit of study on how to introduce oneself and others (forms of *llamarse*) and how to express likes and dislikes (forms of *gustar*). They have also learned how to use the high-frequency grammar structures of *dice/says*, *hay/there is or there are*, and *es/is* in both the positive and negative forms. They have worked on listening to simple Spanish stories that use these structures and retelling the main ideas in English, and they have also started to use our core grammar and vocabulary to write simple Spanish sentences.
- **6th Grade Spanish 1** – 6th grade Spanish 1 has been ramping up their abilities in Spanish writing and speaking while using language acquired last year. Together the class co-created a story using a "choose your own adventure" inspired lesson. They then had to retell the important parts of the story in their own words. In another output-focused work, students were given a series of images that told a story, but the students had to write the story themselves and present it in Spanish. They used language from last year including forms of *va a/goes to*, *está + feeling word/is feeling* __, *tiene/has*, *le gusta/likes*, *descubre que/discovers that*, *quiere ser/wants to be*, *dice/says*, *ve/sees*, and others.
- **Upper Elementary Spanish A** – Upper Elementary group A had a quick review of language used to express calendar and time. We also reviewed language used to introduce self and others, express likes and dislikes, and describe who is talking or asking questions in present and past tenses (forms of *llamarse*, forms of *gustar*, *dice*, *dijo*, *pregunta*, *preguntó*).



**CUENTOS
EN
ESPAÑOL**



Marisa Maldonado, Spanish Lead Teacher



It is hard to believe that we have made it to the middle of the quarter! It has been so much fun getting to know all the new students and to re-connect with old ones watching them learn so much even in this short time.

We have been celebrating el Mes de la Herencia Hispana; so far, we learned about Colombia; its culture, traditions, music, some food and all the wonderful things this country has to offer.

In Primary class the kids have been working really hard in understanding basic commands and getting used to the new language they have being exposed with songs, games, videos, reading and dancing, is important for them to move and to associate the movement with the words in the songs.

In Lower Elementary, we are identifying and recognizing cognates associate with our unit, we have learned some new words and watch a little story about Colombia and why it's a colorful country, also we have learned about a very interesting mode of transportation call CHIVA.

In Upper L, the students have been making a big effort in understanding all the information about Colombia, is important for the students to be exposed as much as possible to the Spanish language getting a clear input in their level so they can output the information in a clear and understanding way, this is why we have been reading and watching videos in Spanish and answering questions about the subject.

The next week we will continue learning about more Latino culture and this time it's Puerto Rico's turn. We will dive into its culture, music and traditions. It will look a lot like our study of Colombia. Our goal is to focus on the culture of these countries, more than on famous celebrities and people, Latino culture is so filled with traditions and history that we have enjoyed introducing the kids to these beautiful places!

Isabel Schmitz, Elementary Spanish Teacher



Physical Education

Artwork by Leila Maldonado



PE HAPPENINGS!

September/October 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

- Team Building exercises focusing on locomotor movements
- Introduction to "playground games" (4-square, gaga ball, chain tag)
- Introduction to beginner cues for throwing and catching

Upper Elementary and Middle

- Introduction to ultimate football; throwing and catching
- Station work focusing on skill related components of fitness (balance, agility ladder, standing long jump, auditory and visual reaction time)
- Fitness: dynamic vs static stretching (warm up and cool down)

Extra Notes:

It has been a fantastic start to the school year! Students are beginning to work together in cooperative games and activities promoting teamwork and collaboration. All classes have been reintroduced to the PE classroom expectations and rules. We will continue to focus on developmental fitness at the upper elementary and middle school levels. The lower elementary and kindergarten classes have been progressing well with locomotor movements, pathways, and levels.

The month of October will focus upon the basic cues for throwing and catching. All levels will participate in games and activities that promote throwing and catching skills while also focusing on teamwork and cooperation. The upper elementary and middle school classes will be going outside as we work in our ultimate football unit. The lower elementary and kindergarten classes will be introduced to throwing and catching with various manipulatives (small and large foam balls, bean bags, foam discs, and small inflatable playground balls). We will work on throwing to a target at multiple levels as well.

Kerry Grimm, PE Teacher

Lab 21

Lab 21 6th Grade – This class has been learning about various aspects of being a good digital citizen. We discussed topics such as how to tell if something is real or a scam online, what makes an online source credible, which personal information is safe and not safe to share online, the impact that framing can have on a message, how to create strong passwords, and the importance of “pause and think” when interacting online.



Marisa Maldonado, Lab 21 Teacher

Tidbits From Our GC

Looking for ways to support CCM through volunteering?

Members of the CCM GC have compiled a catalog of key volunteer roles with job descriptions for each role. Descriptions include tasks and time commitment and point of contact for each role. Click this link to view the [Volunteer Catalog](#) or contact Fundraising@carrollcreekmontessori.org for more information.

- Request for MMCI **Lottery** Committee Volunteers:
 - Please reach out to lottery@mmcimd.org to get involved
- Request for MMCI **Assistant Treasurer**:
 - Please reach out to secretary@mmcimd.org to get involved
- Request for CCM **Library** Committee Volunteers:

Please reach out to communications@carrollcreekmontessori.org to get involved.



Curious about where CCM will be located in Fall 2023?

Monocacy Montessori Communities, Inc. (MMCI) updated its website with a good [overview of the facilities search](#). Stay up to date on the facilities search by attending GC meetings, [reading the minutes](#), and emailing questions to facilities@carrollcreekmontessori.org.

Annual Giving Fund:

Our annual Per Pupil Allotment fund has to stretch farther than other public schools as we pay rent, technology, and other fees not provided through FCPS. CCM could use your support.

<https://www.parentsquare.com/fundraisers/629?token=d847cfc24bf8f996cab6577c4f96bac4b5922b8b>



Nikki Burgee, GC Chair

[Monday, Oct 3 at 8:18 AM]

For some reason it seems like this did not go out to all of our community. Hopefully this one is sent to everyone!

Have a lovely week!