

CCM December Communicator

Marilyn Horan • 18 days ago • Thursday, Dec 22 at 4:25 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



Pajama Day/Winter Retreats will be held Wednesday, January 4th. It was very disappointing for everyone that we were unable to come to school the day before winter break! We still want to honor all the preparation that went into the fun winter activities, so we are looking forward to the rescheduled date!

This is the first year we have had students move on to high school who started here as three year olds. We have students who have been in our school for eleven years! They have no idea, except what friends in other schools tell them, what a traditional school looks and feels like. I am confident they are prepared to take on high school and be successful in every way! Reading the "Counselor's Corner" section with all the high school information has me a little... whistful. Whether I have known them the entire nine years I have been here or for two years (we have no 8th graders who were new this year) I carry a bit of each of them with me.



MEETING NOTICE!

Please plan on coming to either the in-person Town Hall meeting January 24th or the virtual Town Hall meeting January 25th (the link will be shared soon). We are at a very exciting time in the life of our school. As a member of our community you should know the direction we are headed and the why and how decisions are being made. We hope to have initial rough plans for the expansion of our building for parents to view both in-person and virtually. There will also be a brief tour of the entire building the night of the 24th. We hope to see you at one of the meetings!

I hope you have a safe, relaxing and fun winter break with your family and friends!

Marilyn Horan, Principal

Upcoming Events

1.3 School Resumes

1.4 **CCM Facilities Meeting**

1.6 Field Trip - UE to ESSL

1.9 Lotter Opens (Closes March 10)

1.11 No School - Teacher Work Day

1.16 No School - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

1.24 Town Hall Meeting @ CCM @ 7:00pm

1.25 Virtual Town Hall Meeting @ 6:00

1.25 MMCI Meeting

2.1 Field Trip - 5th Grade Outdoor School

2.3 Field Trip - 5th Grade Outdoor School (yes, they go twice)



Counselors Corner

This month we completed lessons with Primary and Lower Elementary students on the topic of "Empathy". We read a book that described what it means to have empathy and to show empathy for others. You may ask your children to describe or share with you what it means to stand in someone else's shoes. Take some time to talk together as a family about how you all can have and show empathy for those in your community, or in your daily interactions, by stepping into someone else's shoes.

4th grade students in Upper Elementary (as well as 5th and 6th grade students who are new to our school this year) completed a "Kids Like Us" lesson this month focused on healthy choices. Kids Like Us is an award winning program created by the Frederick County Health Department to break the cycle of addiction by identifying youth impacted by the drug/alcohol misuse of family member and engaging them in best practices of prevention in both school and community settings.

8th grade students have been learning about the high school registration process including graduation requirements, the semester schedule and course selection options.

Here are some important dates for 8th grade families. We highly recommend attending these events!



- Frederick Community College Dual Enrollment Open House: Tuesday, January 10 from 7-8 PM. Register at: www.tinyurl.com/FCCDualEnrollment
- Frederick High School Registration Night: Tuesday, January 17 at 6 PM
- Middletown High School Registration Night: Wednesday, January 18 at 6 PM.
- Brunswick High School Registration Night: Wednesday, January 25 at 6 PM (*The snow date Wednesday, February 1.)
- Linganore High School Registration Night: Wednesday, January 25 at 6 PM in the LHS Auditorium and Cafeteria (*Snow date Monday, January 30)
- Walkersville High School Registration Information Night: Thursday, January 26 at 6 PM
- Oakdale High School Rising 9th grade Registration Night: Wednesday, February 1 at 6 PM
- Thomas Johnson High School Registration Night: Wednesday, February 8 at 5:45 PM



Kathleen McNamara, School Counselor

Megan James, School counselor

From the Art Room



Kindergarten students are creating intricate snowflakes in cool colors to celebrate the winter season.

Lower Elementary students are completing their printed patterns by adding texture and woven elements to their works. They are also creating independent works at the drawing center that review the elements of art.

Upper Elementary students are completing their assemblages with color and paint. They are also practicing the Principles of Art by completing exercises that explore emphasis and unity.

Middle School 3D Design

students are developing their kinetic sculpture projects and practicing the Principles of Art by completing exercises that explore emphasis and unity.

Middle School Nature as Inspiration for Art students are developing their narrative paintings. They are also practicing the Principles of Art by completing exercises that explore emphasis and unity. -Mrs. Reed

Art is about paying attention. -Laurie Anderson



"All art requires courage" - Anne Tucker

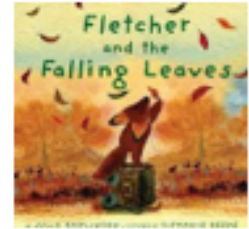
Lisa Reed, Art Teacher

Music Notes



Kindergarten classes are learning a major scale song, The Snowman, that uses both ascending and descending notes from Do to Do. Students are also dancing to "Hanukkah is Here" and the seasonal favorite, "The Freeze Dance." Classes will also be exploring the various tempos of "The Nutcracker." Of course, it wouldn't be the music room, if we didn't sing Jingle Bells while playing many different types of bell instruments!

Lower Elementary are revisiting a favorite fall soundscape, Fletcher and the Falling Leaves, adding instruments representing specific characters as the story is read. Students are also singing and dancing to the sounds of the season with the partner song arrangement "Winter Fantasy," which combines a snowflake song with Jingle Bells, and "O Hanukkah."



Upper Elementary students are moving on to the orff instruments (xylophones, glockenspiels, and metallophones) using their recorder music as introduction pieces for navigating the bars. They are also adding drumming and tambourine patterns to their seasonal favorite, Ocho Kandelikas.

Middle School

- Music History class is starting their early Rock n Roll study focusing on the 50s, and doing playalongs to Elvis' Hound Dog and Chuck Berry's Johnny Be Goode.
- Drama classes presented their skits for our Upper Elementary students
- Performing Ensemble; students put on a wonderful concert

Elementary Performing Ensemble: A fabulous Winter Concert! We are on break until late February.

Mary Lou Reynolds, Music Teacher

Spanish Spoken Here

- **Montessori Spanish Experience – MSE** has worked on several assignments designed to improve their conversational and presentational speaking skills. Students used their understandings of two famous artists and gave oral presentations to compare and contrast their lives as well as their cultural impact. Moving toward Winter Break, students learned about the holiday lottery in Spain and practiced their impromptu conversational skills by discussing topics such as "what they would do if you won the lottery?" and "it is better to go 'all in' and purchase one ticket by yourself and keep all the prize money, or do you prefer to increase your odds and purchase several tickets with others but receive smaller prize amounts?" Students are also practicing how to say very large numbers in Spanish (hundreds of thousands to hundreds of millions and beyond).



- **MS Spanish 2** – Spanish 2 students are also exploring the holiday lottery in Spain and have been introduced to the verbs cuesta (costs), vende (sells), and compra (buy). After reading an intermediate-advanced level article describing how the lottery works, the class then viewed an adorable animated short about a factory night guard who receives the surprise of his life after the rest of the factory wins the Spanish lottery. We used an instructional strategy called “Movie Talk” to discuss clips of the animation, answer questions, and make predictions before watching the full movie to see the surprise ending. The animation presents a very sweet message of doing acts of kindness for others, and there may have been a few sentimental tears at the end of it. **Watch the animation here!**



- **MS Spanish 1 & 6th Grade Spanish 1** – MS Spanish 1 students have been practicing the verbs le da (gives), pone (puts), tiene (has), usa (uses), and pega (hits) through the Catalan winter tradition of a holiday log called Tió de Nadal. In this custom, families in Cataluña put a small log in their homes during winter, decorate it, and the children give it fruit and nuts for a period of days. On December 24, families gather to sing songs and hit the log with a stick (similar to a piñata), and with the help of some winter magic, the log produces treats and gifts for everyone to enjoy.
- **Upper Elementary Spanish A** – Students in UE-A are practicing the words viaja (travels), pone (puts), recibe (receives), and celebra (celebrates) as they compare prominent figures from US/Europe and Latin America holiday celebrations, Santa Claus and Los Reyes Magos. Students will then use picture card cues and our focus words to narrate in Spanish their understandings of similarities and differences.

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

Marisa Maldonado, Spanish Teacher



It's unbelievable that we are already at the end of the year 2022, time is passing by so fast, but we are very excited with the progress and the love the students have shown over the past months.

In upper Elementary B and C, the students have been working hard writing papers in Spanish, describing images, learning new vocabulary, reading and making lots of presentations. We definitely have been working really hard, while having lots of fun!

In the lower Elementary classes, the students are working on the novel: Edi el Elefante and are excited to continue reading and growing their vocabulary day by day. Lower C is learning winter concepts and opposites with short stories, activities and songs. It's amazing to watch the excitement in our class, and happiness they show with their own progress. Next semester, we will be incorporating more novels to keep promoting reading comprehension and writing.

Pre-K and Kinder students are having fun learning songs, potpourri's and dancing. Farm animals have been making us company for the past few weeks, and the Pollito is our favorite, especially while listening to the stories and adventures the pollito goes through.

We are very excited to see how far our students can go and how much will be learned in the next months until the end of the school year.

Isabel Schmitz, Spanish Teacher

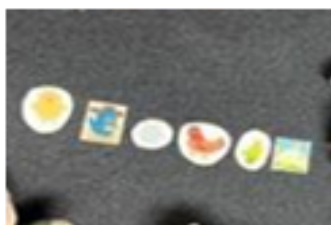
Upper EL presentations



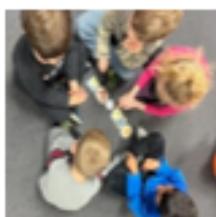
Lower EL Edi el Elefante



Lower C story cards



Farm animals sorting & songs with primary



Physical Education

Artwork by Leila Maldonado



PE HAPPENINGS!

"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.

Kindergarten and Lower Elementary

- Station work focusing on kicking and striking
- Introduction to kicking
- Games and activities that practice soccer skills
- Cooperative games and activities

Upper Elementary and Middle

- Soccer skills including passing, striking for a goal, defensive footwork
- Soccer game play - outdoors and indoors
- Mid point fitness assessments in cardiovascular fitness (PACER), muscular endurance(PLANK), muscular strength (Push Up)

Extra Notes:

The World Cup has inspired and motivated our students to work on their soccer skills and progressively move into game play. At the kindergarten and lower elementary level, the students were introduced to various forms of striking, whether it be with their hands, feet, or short and long handled implements. We did station work to give the students an opportunity to work on their striking skills using various implements and balls. The students were asked to identify different sports that use implements for striking and what the implement is called (ex. Hockey stick strikes a hockey puck, tennis racket strikes a tennis ball, hands strike a volleyball, feet strike a soccer ball). We focused upon striking with the feet as we moved into the soccer unit. The students worked on passing with circle passing as well as striking to a target with modified game play.

Upper elementary and middle school students have also been working in our soccer unit. The students have had the opportunity to work indoors and outdoors in modified game play. We have also started our mid point fitness assessments. The students have been tracking their fitness progress using their personal fitness cards. The goal for each student was to improve upon their baseline fitness scores, whether that be increased reps for pushups, increased laps for the PACER test, or holding a high or low plank for a longer period of time. The large majority of students improved upon their baseline scores.

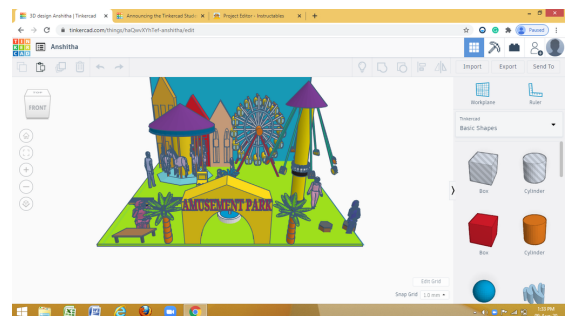
Kerry Grimm, PE Teacher

Lab 21

Hello families of CCM 6th graders!

We are in the final stretch of Lab 21! Students created the most AMAZING dream amusement parks using the 3D design website called TinkerCad.

In addition to their designs, students also had to present to their peers about the park's location, theme, ticket prices, attractions, refreshments, and more. They also designed logos and mascots for their amusement parks. As we wrap up the second term, students are exploring the difference between jobs and careers and identifying careers they'd like to learn more about. Please contact me if you have questions about your child's Lab 21 progress. Thank you for your support!



Marisa Maldonado, CCM 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 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>



CCMPCS Annual Giving Campaign

Goal: \$30,000

Pledged: \$10,450

Nikki Burgee, GC Chair