



January 22, 2024

INSIDE CHARLESTON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Teaching character, compassion, and confidence to the youth of West Virginia for over 90 years

Dear parents and students:

What a week! I believe we exceeded last year’s snowfall early last week. Who knows what the rest of winter has in store for us. As stressful as the winter weather can be from my perspective, I am focusing on the other aspects this week. I love the peaceful feel of watching the snow fall early in the morning while enjoying a hot cup of coffee. There is little that compares to watching the sheer joy my daughter experiences while sledding, making snow angels, and just tromping around in the snow that’s almost up to her knees. I was reminded last week that it’s not just little kids who enjoy the snow. Even our “grown up” high school kids love the opportunity to get outside and play. It’s so important that they have these moments to still be kids and delight in the simple pleasures. Frequently our young people get caught up in the pressure of academics, extracurriculars, and athletics. There’s pressure to grow up and act like adults long before they have to, and we expect them to show responsibility and maturity in so many situations. We need to help them find the balance of growing up too soon while acting with self-control and maturity in the appropriate situations. It’s a fine line for sure.

Let’s support and encourage them to take advantage of the simple pleasures and go sledding or build a snowman when the time is right. Let’s also hold expectations for them to make good choices and accept responsibility for their actions at appropriate times. It’s our job to help them prepare for the challenges of adulthood and finding balance is an important way to do that.

I wish you the opportunity to enjoy some simple pleasures as well!

Warmly,
Colleen Hoyer

CONDOLENCES– We express our sympathy to our students and their families who have lost loved ones recently. May the souls of the departed rest in peace: Jack Harwood’s maternal grandfather; Talon Carpenter’s paternal grandmother. Please keep these families in your thoughts and prayers.

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ACADEMIC UPDATES

FIRST SEMESTER REPORT CARDS – were mailed today. For seventh through twelfth graders, semester grades are composed of first quarter grades, second quarter grades, and exam grades. Sixth graders' semester grades are composed of first and second quarter grades. Their exams are a part of their second quarter grades. When you examine your child's current report card, please note that **quarter GPAs** are reported at the bottom of each quarter's column. The semester GPA, calculated using current semester grades, is located at the bottom of the semester average column and is recorded on a student's transcript. As it appears on the high school report card, the GPA is weighted. However, the unweighted semester GPA is used for extracurricular eligibility determination (a 2.0 is required). The **cumulative GPA (noted on high school report cards only)**, reported at the lower right under the teacher comments, is the cumulative grade point average for all high school semesters. Please note each of these details.

TRANSCRIPTS AND REPORT CARDS – At the end of the semester, there is a lot of talk about grades being recorded on a transcript. Transcripts are what colleges see, so it is important for you to know what is included. In addition to demographic information (e.g., address, phone, birthdate, etc.), academic and attendance information is recorded. CCHS **does not** include students' Social Security numbers on transcripts. Students' courses are listed by grade level and **semester grades** for each course are included with **a letter grade and a number grade**. Quarter, exam, and conduct grades are NOT included on the transcript. Only high school courses (not middle school records) are recorded on the transcript that will be sent to colleges during a student's senior year.

PROMOTION POLICY – A review of the CCHS promotion policy is in order, now that first semester grades are official.

- 1.) All students (grades 6-12) must pass both semesters of theology in order to be promoted to the next grade level in June.
- 2.) The required number of community service hours and fine arts/humanities credits must also be completed before being granted a diploma or before being readmitted for the next school year.
- 3.) Promotion to the next grade is granted when a student earns credit for each semester's courses.
- 4.) Students who fail courses must enroll in CCHS-approved summer school programs during the summer following the failure to make up the credit if they wish to remain at CCHS. Students failing more than two semesters in one school year may be placed on academic probation or may not be readmitted to CCHS for the following school year.
- 5.) In 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students must earn a total of 7 credits each year. To be classified as a sophomore, a student must have earned 7 credits, 14 credits to be considered a junior, and 21 credits a senior.

MAP TESTING—Winter MAP testing begins this week for sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students. Ninth and tenth graders will take their winter MAP tests next week. These results (which will be available later this winter) will allow you to see your child's growth during this school year. All sixth through tenth graders will test again in late April/ early May. MAP scores will be used in course placements for the upcoming school year, so it is important that students do their best on this testing.

RENWEB REMINDERS

RENWEB BEST PRACTICES—As we begin the second semester, students have the opportunity to make a fresh start with their grades in all of their courses. Reviewing your child's grades and having a healthy knowledge of and discussion about students' grades can help support your child in his/her academic pursuits. However, sometimes this knowledge can translate to additional stress on students. Below please find some ideas that might help Ren Web be a beneficial experience for your family.

1. Monitor grades weekly. Facilitate discussion.

By checking in weekly with Ren Web, parents are able to get the big picture of their child's week at school. Talk about what you see together. What did you learn this week? What did you do well? What did you find challenging? Were your study habits for the week successful? Do your study habits need to be adjusted for the upcoming week? Look for areas of strength and weakness. Remember, frequent monitoring of Ren Web

can place a large amount of unnecessary stress on students. A weekly review gives a better picture than frequent, daily monitoring.

2. Empower your child.

If your child has a question about a grade or a misunderstood concept, encourage him or her to talk to the teacher first. It is important that our children know we support them as they take control of their own learning.

3. Set a time to review grades that works for your family.

While Ren Web grade updates go out at midnight, grade review doesn't have to be the way your family begins Sunday morning. What makes sense for your family? When do you plan for the upcoming week? Can weekly Ren Web grade review, as well as Ren Web Lesson Plan review, fit naturally into this planning time?



CALENDAR AND TUITION INFORMATION FOR 2024-25

TUITION RATES FOR 2024-25— Careful and thoughtful budgeting and financial planning continue at CCHS. Our costs continue to rise and efforts have been made to balance those costs with consideration of costs faced by families. The coming school year will require us to be deliberate in our spending and in our budgeting. CCHS runs solely on the income generated each year from tuition and fees. To operate in a fiscally responsible manner next year, tuition increases will be required and are being determined. An increase between 5-8% is anticipated. We have a number of financial aid opportunities available for families who need them. If you have concerns about tuition once it is released, please contact Mrs. Shindle or Mrs. Hoyer to talk about opportunities that are available. Tuition rates will be released in mid-April and invoices will be mailed at that time.

EXCITING NEWS REGARDING DIOCESAN TUITION ASSISTANCE— For the thirty-third consecutive year, the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston will continue its tradition of offering the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) in an effort to keep Catholic school education affordable for families who desire it but who may need some financial assistance to make that dream a reality. Thanks to Most Reverend Mark Brennan's commitment to Catholic education, funds have once again been allocated for distribution to families in need of assistance. **This year, Phase 1 will be open to Catholic families only, but Phases 2 and 3 will be open to Catholic and non-Catholic families!! A flier is attached to this email with details.** Awards are based upon a family's degree of need relative to all other applicants. Apply on-line at www.factsmgt.com. Click on "Grant and Aid Assessment" and log in. Have your 2023 tax information available. Catholic families with children currently enrolled or who are applying to enroll for the 2024-2025 school year should apply ASAP. Applications open February 1. Phase 1 families must belong to a parish included on the drop-down list as part of the on-line application. **The deadline for Phase 1 is April 30, 2024; the Phase 2 deadline is July 14, 2024, and; the Phase 3 deadline is August 23, 2024.** No assistance will be available from the Diocese or from any school unless an application and all required documentation is submitted, and the fee has been paid by the deadline. The application fee to families is \$25. Families should only submit one application per year, not one per phase!



TENTATIVE CALENDAR FOR 2024-25 – Please keep this calendar in mind as you plan for next year. **THIS IS A TENTATIVE CALENDAR AND CHANGES ARE STILL POSSIBLE.** Please remember that **exams must be taken on scheduled exam days** and students who are absent more than 5 days in a semester will have to make up those days at the end of the semester.

Wed., Aug. 21	First day of school for students
Mon., Sept. 2	Labor Day- no school
Mon., Oct. 28	11:30 dismissal, teacher professional development
Wed., Nov. 6	Parent-Teacher conferences
Mon., Nov. 11	Veterans Day- no school
Wed., Nov. 27	E-day for students
Thurs., Nov. 28- Fri., Nov. 29	Thanksgiving holiday
Wed- Fri., Dec. 18-20	exams
Mon., Dec. 23- Friday, Jan. 3	Christmas break
Mon., Jan. 6	classes resume
Mon., Jan. 20	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day- no school
Tues., Jan. 21	e-day for students, teacher professional development
Mon., Feb. 17	Presidents' Day- no school
Mon., March 24	11:30 dismissal, teacher professional development
Mon., Apr. 14- Mon., Apr. 21	Easter Break
Tues., Apr. 22	classes resume
Thurs., May 22	baccalaureate
Fri., May 23	graduation
Mon., May 26	Memorial Day- no school
Mon., June 2- Wed., June 4	exams for 6th -11th graders
Wed., June 4	Moving Up Ceremony for 8 th graders

SCHEDULING AND ADMISSIONS FOR 2024-25

2024-2025 RE-ENROLLMENT FOR CURRENT STUDENTS – Re- enrollment/ registration forms for returning students will be distributed to students on Friday, February 2. They should be returned by February 16 with the \$200 deposit to reserve your child’s spot for 2024-25. Scheduling forms with course offerings and selections will be distributed in April. At this point, students should be focused on doing their best in their current classes because grades and work ethic are important factors in course placement.



NEW STUDENTS FOR 2024-2025– The Admissions Committee has released its schedule for the upcoming school year. Applications for all grade levels are now available online (www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org). Applications will be completed and submitted online. Detailed instructions are available on the CCHS website.

Prospective Parent Open House

On Wednesday, January 31, from 5-7 pm, parents will have the opportunity to talk with current parents, students, teachers, and Mrs. Hoyer and Mrs. Aubel in the Commons. A brief information session, as well as tours of the school building, will be offered. We look forward to this opportunity to introduce prospective students and families to our community.

Fifth Grade Visit Day

Any fifth grade student is invited to attend our fifth grade visit day. It will be held on Thursday, February 8th, from 9 a.m. to noon. Fifth grade students will meet the current sixth grade teachers, take a tour of the school building, eat lunch in the Commons, and participate in their very first CCHS ‘pep rally.’ Families who do not attend Sacred Heart Grade School should call the school office to register.

Admissions Testing

All students applying to CCHS will take an admissions test prior to their application being reviewed. Any rising 6th grader from Sacred Heart Grade School will take their admissions test at SHGS during the school day. Testing can be scheduled through the link accessible once the student’s application is submitted.

Admissions Timeline and Calendar

Wednesday, January 31– Prospective Parent Open House

Friday, February 2- beginning of re-enrollment for current families

Thursday, February 8- 5th Grade Visit Day, 9 am to noon

Friday, February 9 – applications accepted for current Catholic school families who wish to be given first consideration.

Monday, February 12- Thursday, February 16- Admissions tests after school for students not enrolled in SHGS

Thursday, February, 15- deadline for applications from current Catholic school families to receive first consideration

Friday, February 23- deadline for all applications for first round consideration

Friday, March 1 – first round of acceptance letters mailed (for applicants whose files are completed by **February 23** – applications received after February 23 will be reviewed periodically by the Admissions Committee and notification as to enrollment status will be mailed at that time)

NOTE – It is rare for CCHS to accept students as juniors and seniors. Only juniors and seniors moving into the area will be considered.

ELEMENTARY DAY AT THE CCHS ATHLETIC FACILITY-- We are excited to invite all students and families from Sacred Heart Grade School, St. Francis, and other local elementary schools to join us at the CCHS Athletic Facility on Thursday, February 15, to cheer on our girls’ basketball team. Let’s go Irish!

MIDDLE SCHOOL UPDATES

EIGHTH GRADE WV WRITING CONTEST-- *Goldenseal Magazine* has partnered with Charleston Catholic to offer the Third Annual *Goldenseal Magazine* Young Writers Contest! The winner of the essay contest will have his/her article published in the state’s *Goldenseal Magazine*. What a wonderful opportunity to become a published author before finishing middle school! We have already had six CCHS students published through this program. All Charleston Catholic eighth graders will be participating. Their articles must be at least 750 words in length and no longer than 2000 words. They may choose any topic they wish as long as it is related to West Virginia and is a work of nonfiction. Topics are being submitted this month and final submissions will be due March 1. Any questions about this contest can be directed to Miss Cline.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW--FIRED UP FRIDAY!—We are excited to welcome WSAZ to our Athletic Facility on Friday, February 9, from 6-7 am as they broadcast live during the WSAZ morning show as we get fired up for the girls’ basketball team to host Wheeling Central Catholic that evening. We are planning a pep rally featuring high school class competitions and hope to showcase the enthusiasm, pride, and spirit that are hallmarks of CCHS. All students (grades 6-12) and parents are invited. Breakfast will be provided afterward. During the school day, we will celebrate the 100th year of CCHS with fun activities for students. Additional details will be shared in the near future, but mark your calendar now so you can be a part of this exciting celebration!

WINTER WALTZ- The high school dance will be from 8:00 pm until 10:30 pm on Saturday, February 10. The dance will be in the Commons. Dance permission slips will be sent home the week before. Please pay attention to dress guidelines!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16- This year we will honor the legacy of *Bobby Hypes*, a member of the CCHS class of 2008 who died of heart disease on February 5, 2006, with our annual "Wear Red for Bobby Day." Students may wear red sweaters/shirts with jeans or khakis with a \$2 contribution to help fund the CCHS Bobby Hypes Memorial Scholarship. The partial-tuition scholarship, awarded to a rising freshman each year, celebrates Bobby's life and reminds each of us to live as Bobby did – kindly, appreciatively, and enthusiastically. Mr. and Mrs. Hypes are appreciative that we will be continuing the tradition and look forward to pictures of the students dressed in red! Donations to the scholarship fund are also accepted.

CCHS DRAMA-- is proud to present *Antigone*, a Greek tragedy by Sophocles and adapted for the modern stage. Antigone, daughter of Oedipus, must defy her tyrannical uncle, Creon. In doing so she causes a chain reaction of tragedy for the newly sworn in king of Thebes. You won't want to miss this exciting performance - Friday and Saturday, March 22-23, 2024, **7:30 PM**. Tickets are available at the door; adult tickets are \$10 and students are \$7. All seats are general admission. Fine arts credit is available.

FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

VIRTUS– Be sure you're able to help! All parents or other adults who volunteer, coach, drive students, chaperone, etc., are required by the Diocese to complete the diocesan sexual abuse awareness training before being allowed to work with our students. Training is available online or at sessions periodically scheduled. To begin, visit the VirtusOnline.org and choose the "First Time Registrant" option. Allow 1- 1½ hours to complete the program.

The remaining two components of compliance will be completed using digital forms through the Virtus system (virtus.org). A background check and sign off on the Form Policy Relating to Sexual Abuse of Children **MUST** be completed online before you are able to volunteer. You must add Charleston Catholic as a location where you will be volunteering.

Additionally, adults who volunteer, coach, or chaperone, may be asked to update background and policy forms. Background checks must be updated every three years. Policy questionnaires should be updated if they were signed before 2014. Current Diocese guidelines do not require volunteers to update the training portion of VIRTUS. Please contact Mr. Villers with any questions about how to update your forms.



OUTSIDE FORMS- If your child needs to have forms filled out by teachers or other school staff for a physician's evaluation, please send them to the main office with a note. Please note that any form filled out for the purpose of evaluation must be sent directly to a specific doctor or group; forms will not be returned to the child or parent.



WE NEED YOUR PHOTOS FOR THE YEARBOOK! –We need your help gathering pictures for the yearbook, especially with pictures of middle school events! You can share photos of sporting events and practices, school &

community events. Start sharing today! **Share images directly from your phone by downloading the FREE Yearbook Snap app from the App Store or Google Play Store and using school code: goirish**

Be sure to share photos as soon as possible so that our staff can integrate them prior to their quarterly deadlines!

FREE MATH TUTORING-- As a service to Charleston Catholic students, our school's chapter of Mu Alpha Theta provides free math tutoring. The tutoring service takes place in the Library on Tuesdays from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Just drop in; no appointments necessary! If you have any questions, email Mrs. Walter at jean.walter@charlestoncatholic-crw.org or Mrs. Griffith at sarah.griffith@charlestoncatholic-crw.org.

SCIENCE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY TUTORING OPPORTUNITY-- Science National Honor Society students will be available to peer tutor for middle and high science courses in the library on Tuesdays from 3 - 4 pm. Please contact Mrs. Griffith if you have any questions.

HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE BOOK CLUB-- Over 40 students participated in book club this fall. We will be voting in January to select a new book to read in the spring. Any high school student interested in joining can join the Google classroom (code: **ku5g47o**). Please contact Mrs. Arnold if you have any questions.

ACADEMIC ADVISING NOTES

1.) **West Virginia Governor's Schools:** The State of West Virginia is proud to offer The Governor's Honors Schools, residential summer sessions for academically and/or artistically talented students from across West Virginia. The programs are based on the premise that West Virginia's youth must be provided with special opportunities for learning and personal development in order for them to realize their full potential. There is no cost to families of students who are accepted to these competitive programs. Those who have attended these programs in the past describe them as "life-changing." It is time to start thinking about whether this might interest your child. For more information, visit <http://www.govschools.wv.gov/>.

Honors Academy

- Where: Fairmont State University
- When: June 16-July 3, 2024
- Who: Rising 11th Graders

STEM Institute

- Where: WVU and Green Bank Observatory
- Who: Rising 8th Graders

Arts

- Where: West Virginia Wesleyan College
- When: June 23-July 13, 2024
- Who: Rising 10th Graders

Entrepreneurship

- Where: Marshall University
- When: July 7-21, 2024
- Who: Rising 9th, 10th, and 11th Graders

Computer Science

- Where: West Virginia University
- When: June 16-22, 2024
- Who: High School Students

Literacy through Arts, Culture, and History

- Where: West Virginia Culture Center State Museum and West Virginia State University
- When: June 23-28, 2024
- Who: Rising 8th Graders

2.) **PROMISE scholarship and FAFSA deadline** – May 1. All students in the Class of 2024 must complete BOTH the PROMISE and the FAFSA applications in order to be considered for the PROMISE

scholarship. Additionally, colleges and universities throughout the country use FAFSA information to determine scholarships and financial aid. We will be hosting a FAFSA workshop on Wednesday, February 7th in the library from 5:30-7:30.

- 3.) **PSAT results** for students in grades 8-11 results are available on collegeboard.org. Please review these detailed reports and contact Mrs. Aubel if you have any questions.
- 4.) **Juniors--mark your calendars!** On April 16th, CCHS will participate in the SAT School Day (a *free* test administered to all CCHS juniors; students are already registered for this test). Students will take the SAT at CCHS during a school day.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

- 1.) February 14th is Ash Wednesday this year. We will celebrate with an All School Mass in the Basilica. Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent which is the 40 days of fasting, prayer and almsgiving that prepare us for Good Friday and then Easter. This year, our theme will be Pope Francis' writing on Care for Creation: Laudato Si (2015) and Laudate Deum (2023). Morning announcements will have daily reflections and actions we can take to appreciate and care for the natural world. Charleston Catholic students will have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- 2.) We are working to schedule the grade level retreats. This semester, we will hold retreats for 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th grades. Be on the lookout for updates on these retreat plans.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND GIVING

SUPPORT CCHS AS YOU SHOP— Kroger offers a rewards program that is easy to use and that benefits CCHS. Your support is much appreciated!

- The **Kroger Community Rewards is a simple but beneficial program.** To enroll, go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com and use the Charleston Catholic organization number **LH615**. Be sure you have your Kroger Plus card available when you register. Kroger Plus Cards are available at the Customer Service desk at any Kroger. To participate in the program, just register your **Kroger Plus Shopper's Card (as outlined above)**, use the card when you checkout, and Charleston Catholic will receive a check from Kroger on a quarterly basis.

HOPE 2024 UPDATE – Planning continues for our 19th summer of HOPE. Members of the junior and senior classes have applied to participate in our week of home construction and repair, **June 16-21, 2024**. We will partner again this coming summer with Bill & Addie Likens, who coordinate the Cabwaylingo Appalachian Mission (CAM) in Wayne and Mingo Counties. Our group of juniors, seniors, college age alumni and adult work team leaders will make significant repairs at the homes of several low-income families and seniors. Some of our volunteers will also assist with the construction of a new house for a family in need. We are committed to raising **\$25,000 to purchase building materials for the construction of the new home**. CAM will supplement our fundraising efforts with the materials necessary to complete the construction of the new home and to make the repairs on the other houses at which we will work, making these houses **warmer, safer, and drier**. Our **annual funding appeal kicks off later this month** with a link to make a tax deductible donation available on the school website. A **slideshow of our 2023 HOPE experience** is posted on our school website under the "Community Outreach" tab.



NOTES FROM THE PARENT VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION (PVA)

All volunteers must be 100% VIRTUS compliant.

- 1.) **Catholic Schools Week, January 29 – February 2-** United in Faith and Community. CCHS will again participate in National Catholic Schools Week by supporting a number of community organizations. This year, with the help of our eighth grade students and parents, we are supporting five charities that make an impact on their communities. Please mark your calendars and start stocking up now for any donations you are able and willing to make.
Our \$2 dress down day will be Tuesday, January 30, and the \$2 donation will benefit Daymark. Below is the full list of charities and the items that they have requested. If any eighth grade parents would like to volunteer to help work that week, please call or text Cassidi Wriston (304-552-1655) or Kamilla Rashid (304-549-5025). Thank you in advance for your help with this project.
Monday, Jan. 29 - Risen Lord Food Pantry - canned meats, peanut butter, rice, dried beans, cereal, soup, crackers, canned fruits and vegetables
Tuesday, Jan. 30 - Daymark - pillows and pillowcases, sheets (twin), towels and washcloths
*\$2 dress down day recipient
Wednesday, Jan. 31 - Manna Meal- -canned proteins, peanut butter and jelly, pasta, spaghetti sauce, Ramen noodles, Rice a Roni, canned soups, and breakfast bars
Thurs, Feb. 1 – Covenant House - deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, lotion, and body wash
Friday, Feb. 2–Gabriel Project- diapers in sizes preemie, newborn, 4, 5, 6; disposable training pants; J&J baby wash; baby wipes
- 2.) **PVA Polos and Fleece** - Order forms for CCHS logo jackets (including the green quarter zip fleece jacket, the heavier weight grey jacket, and also a lighter weight black jacket, both in full zip and quarter zip), white uniform polo shirts, and green athletic/academic competition polo shirts are available on the CCHS website. **The ordering period for polos and jackets is open until January 26.** For questions, please contact Cynthia Hemphill-Reehling (803-242-5087) for jackets, Kristina Whiteaker (304-610-5544) for green polos, and Sara Frame (304-389-1241) for white polos. **OFFICIAL UNIFORM POLOS MUST BE PURCHASED THROUGH PVA.** Please note that students who are members of athletic teams and academic competition teams are permitted to wear an official CCHS kelly green polo shirt with khaki pants to school on designated dates – normally home games and post-season games designated by the principal.
- 3.) Thanks to all of our lunch volunteers! Please take notice of the weekly reminder emails as the lunch times may vary based upon mass schedules and alternate bell schedules. If there is a change in schedule, it will be noted in the reminder email. All cafeteria volunteers should have a current food handler card (see below).
****The Kanawha-Charleston Health Department requires all cafeteria volunteers to have a food handler card. Cards must be renewed every two years. In order to be in compliance with this requirement, all CCHS cafeteria volunteers must complete a 75 minute online training course and 30 question assessment with a score of 70%. The PVA will pay the registration cost and will provide volunteers with an access code to participate in the course. Please contact Tina Caldwell at (304) 546-3081 or tina.caldwell1987@gmail.com for an access code. **Upon completion please submit a copy to the office which will be kept on file at the school and Athletic Facility.** ****
- 4.) **Parent involvement** is a vital component of the successful operation of the CCHS athletic program. Working gates and concession stands, being supportive of the players and coaches, and attending games are important pieces. EVERY parent of an athlete is needed to support the teams. Please help how you can and cheer on the Irish!
- 5.) **Athletic family passes** are available through the PVA. These passes are good for immediate family members only (not cousins, in-laws, ex-in-laws, grandparents, fiancées, etc.) to attend CCHS home games. **The passes do not cover away games, tournaments played at home, homecoming games, or any SSAC tournaments.** Cost is \$175 for all home middle school games only, \$200 for all home high school games only, and \$250 for all home games (both levels). A \$100 student or senior citizen pass for all home games is also available. An order form for sports passes was in the PVA Parent Registration Packet. Please contact Kerri Linton at 304-228-4138. or kinton@pc solutions.com if you have questions about these passes.

- 6.) **PVA packets** including volunteer forms and all ordering forms for logo jackets, white polos, and green polos are available on the school website (www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org). Forms should be submitted electronically or to the school office.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

KING CUPCAKES VOLUNTEERS NEEDED-- The PVA King Cake Committee is seeking volunteers to purchase King Cakes from Spring Hill Pastry Shop for "Fat Tuesday," February 13, 2024, for the students, faculty and staff to enjoy. If you are interested in purchasing cakes to assist with this project, please contact Amy Tawney by email at atawney@bowlesrice.com or by cell at 304-546-7179.

HANDBOOK REMINDERS

PLANNED ABSENCES-- While the school does not encourage students to miss school for any reason, there is a procedure to follow when students know of absence(s) in advance. The purpose is to notify school personnel of a student's planned absence. **School-sponsored activities are excused (e.g., academic competitions, post-season sports play). All other absences are unexcused (e.g., doctor appointments, performances, funerals).** It is the student's responsibility to make up all class work, assignments, and tests missed due to the absence, according to school guidelines. Students must obtain an "Out of School Notification" form from the office for all planned absences.

1. Parent/Guardian must complete the form and indicate specific date(s) and reason(s) for the absence.
2. Student must present the form to teachers and obtain signatures indicating that the teachers are aware of the absence.
3. The form must be turned into the office. Official school records will reflect the status of the absence, i.e., excused for school-approved activities or unapproved for all other absences. If a school-sponsored excused form is not completed and turned into the office prior to the absence, it will be treated as an unexcused absence.

PROOF OF ENROLLMENT FORMS - In order to secure drivers' licenses and permits, students are required to provide proof of school enrollment. These state-mandated forms are available in the school office. Students must request these forms from the school secretary **at least two days in advance. Forms are not issued during July.**

ATHLETIC UPDATES

STUDENT-PARENT ATHLETIC COMPACT- Parents of student-athletes play an important role in helping their children learn how to participate in athletics appropriately. Parents should set the example that is expected of our students. Namely, they should exhibit good sportsmanship and show respect for everyone associated with the program. They should help establish balance in their children's lives by supporting participation in athletic and extracurricular activities while placing primary importance on academics. Parents should give consistent encouragement and support to their children regardless of the degree of success, the level of skill, and the time on the field, and they should leave the coaching to the coaches and not place their children in the uncomfortable position of having to choose between their parents or their coach. Our athletic program would not be possible without the support of our parents, and we thank you for your commitment. Additional details of the Student-Parent Athletic Compact can be found in the Parent-Student Handbook.

BASEBALL GAME DAY SPONSORSHIPS- Our high school and middle school baseball teams are scheduled to play 2024 home games at the Shawnee Sports Complex. While the field usage cost of our home games is included in our field sponsorship, we are responsible for the field usage cost for our practice time on the field. **Please consider a Game Day Sponsorship.** A **\$200 donation** will help us cover the cost of the field rental for a few days of practice. **Your firm, company, or family's name will be displayed at the field on your game date.** Baseball Game Day Sponsor Forms are available [here](#).

ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY – In order for students to be eligible for athletics and extracurricular activities, students must have at least **an unweighted 2.0 grade point average for the semester** and must be in good behavioral and academic standing at CCHS in order to participate in extracurricular activities.



WINTER SPORTS UPDATES—

Swimming- The swim team has had an exciting year so far! They competed in the National Catholic Swim Meet earlier this month in Baltimore. Lily Patnoe broke the school record in the 100 yard freestyle with a time of 54.75, placing 9th overall. The 200 yard freestyle relay team composed of Hannah Sullivan, Hannah Fisher, Lily Patnoe, and Izzy Paulson also qualified for the National Meet. Regionals for the team will be on February 3rd and the State Meet will be February 15th and 16th.

HS Basketball- The boys' basketball team sits at 12-0 and #1 in the State. Only two of their opponents have scored over 40 points! The girls are 6-4 and ranked #10 in the State. The Lady Irish are very small in number with only 8 girls, but they could be very dangerous in March for their opponents. Sectionals begin on February 21 for the girls and the 27th for the boys.

MS Basketball- The Lady Irish are undefeated and #1 in the Kanawha County Conference. They have already clinched a spot in the County Tournament. The boys have struggled early in the season but are hoping to turn it around heading into February. The girls' tournament will be February 14, and the boys will be on February 21.



MANY THANKS

- to the PVA Hospitality Committee for the fantastic holiday lunch they provided for the faculty and staff during exam week. It was a lovely way to gather and spend some time together prior to Christmas break!
- to the following leaders of various Christian denominations for helping the senior class appreciate the diversity of Christian community, worship, and work present here in Charleston. Pastors Cindy and Derick Briggs-Biondi joined us once again to share their perspective of Christian Church History. Fr. Joseph Hazar of St. George's shared about the Orthodox faith and community. Pastor Ryan Bandy of the Bible Center shared about the non-denominational movement and their involvement in many inspiring ways around Charleston. Pastor Sharletta Green spoke of her life and work in various ministries of the Methodist tradition. And Fr. John Finnell, formerly of Blessed Sacrament, shared about the concepts of universality and sacramentality that he loves about the Catholic faith and which transformed his own life. We are so grateful for each of these leaders in our community! They have helped us connect the lived experience to our textbook knowledge, and we have come to know and appreciate the city of Charleston all the better through it!
- to our impressive senior volunteers and faculty and staff members Josh and Sherry Shindle, Mike and Amy Arnold, Jason Villers, Meredith Aubel, Nancy McLaughlin, Sue France, Rodney LeGrand, Dan Irwin, Jacob Nelson, David Hoffmann, Giuseppina D'Alessio, Erik Keane, Phillip Kellison, Patrick Herlihy, and Ted Walker for spending a Saturday morning unloading trucks and organizing and distributing presents and food boxes at Risen Lord Catholic Church as part of our Clay County Christmas Party. Their hard work and positive attitudes helped spread the Christmas spirit!

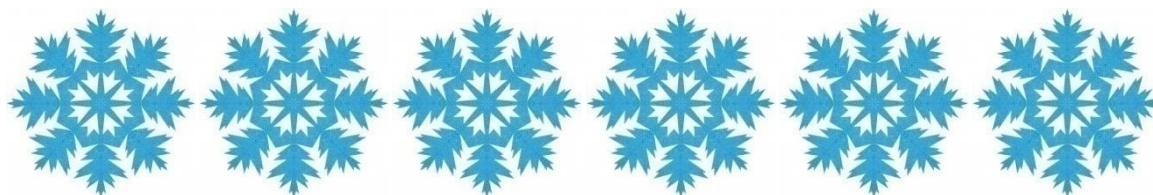
CONGRATULATIONS

- to the students representing Charleston Catholic at the Kanawha County Math Field Day. The middle school team is Hallie Caponiti (6th grade), Kali Shawkey (7th grade), and Altay Bayraktar (8th grade). The high school team is freshman Jude Griffith, sophomore Abigail Dotson, junior Zach Harrison, and seniors Nicole Gao, Emilie McNeil, Joey Muchow, and Tony Singh. Good luck to our Math Field Day teams as they compete on February 7th.

SCHOOL CLOSURE INFORMATION

SCHOOL CLOSINGS/DELAYS DUE TO SNOW/ICE – Winter has definitely arrived! Here’s a brief reminder of the CCHS weather policy. **Remember that school closings and delays are texted through Parent Alert, are announced on the CCHS website, and are tweeted through cchsnews.**

- 1) CCHS/SHGS will NOT follow ANY of the Kanawha County Schools’ weather-related procedures.
- 2) Families may connect to the CCHS website or listen to the radio/television for changes to CCHS/SHGS schedules. The following stations will be notified by 6:15 a.m. if there are changes to be made: WV Public Radio, WCHS, WCHS-TV, WSAZ-TV, WOWK TV, V100, 96.1, and WKAZ. **The CCHS website will be updated, a tweet will be sent through cchsnews, and a Parent Alert text will be sent. IF THE DAY WILL BE REMOTE LEARNING OR E-DAY, THAT INFORMATION WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CLOSURE.**
- 3) If no announcements are made for CCHS/SHGS, classes will be held on the regular schedule.
- 4) **If a two-hour delay is announced, classes will start promptly 2 hours after the normal start time. The school day will start at 10 a.m.** The building will not open until 9:45 to give staff time to get to school. Please do not drop off your children before 9:45!
- 5) **As always, if you cannot get your child to school for health or safety reasons, notify the school.**



CALENDAR FOR 2023-24

CALENDAR --Please use this calendar in your planning. Please remember that exams must be taken on scheduled exam days, and students who are absent more than 5 days in a semester will have to make up those days at the end of the semester. Please note that, as is the case each school day, teachers administer tests/quizzes, have assignments due, and teach lessons on the days immediately preceding and following school holidays. Students who take extended holidays run the risk of affecting their grades.

Monday, January 22- Friday, February 2
 Mon., January 29- Fri., February 2
 Friday, February 9
 Saturday, February 10
 Mon., February 19
 Friday, March 15
 Mon., March 18
 Tuesday, March 19
 Thursday, March 21

winter MAP testing for grades 6-10
 Catholic Schools Week
 Fired Up Friday at CCHS Athletic Facility, 6-7 am
 Winter Waltz for high school students, 8:00- 10:30 pm
 Presidents’ Day- no school
 end of third quarter
 11:30 dismissal, teacher professional development
 Golden Horseshoe essay test for 8th graders
 Golden Horseshoe test for 8th graders

Fri., March 29- Fri., Apr. 5	Easter Break
Mon., April 8	classes resume
Tuesday, April 16	SAT School Day for juniors
Monday, April 22- Friday, May 3	spring MAP testing for grades 6-10
Mon. May 6- Friday, May 17	AP tests
Saturday, May 18	prom
Thurs., May 23	baccalaureate in evening
Fri., May 24	graduation and Project Graduation
Mon., May 27	Memorial Day- no school
Wed., May 29- Fri., May 31	exams for 6th -11th graders; 11:15 dismissal
Friday, May 31	Moving Up Ceremony for 8 th graders