



March 22, 2024

# INSIDE CHARLESTON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Teaching character, compassion, and confidence to the youth of West Virginia for 100 years

Dear parents and students:

As we progress through the holy season of Lent, we begin and end each school day with prayers focusing on the words of Pope Francis, particularly his concern and care for creation and our obligation to remain humble and connected to the Earth. Our prayers are accompanied by a “Lenten Challenge for the Day” which is a small action that each of us can take as individuals to better connect to the earth and to care for others and ourselves. These small challenges are simple things, things like gathering coins to donate to the Rice Bowl; helping with the family laundry; making a list of things we are grateful for; affirming someone else’s creativity; and focusing on the people in front of us rather than on technology and social media. Our goal is to help our students remember that God created us as a part of the world. We are kin to all peoples and all creation and honoring those connections honors God’s creation. Denying those connections denies Oneness with God.

With the approach of Holy Week and the season of Easter, I pray that we are able to remember these challenges and connections. If everyone in our school community focuses on these small gestures that show kindness to and care for others, imagine what a difference we can make in the world.

I wish you a peaceful Holy Week and a joyful Easter!

Warmly,  
Colleen Hoyer

**CONDOLENCES**– We express our sympathy to members of our school community and their families who have lost loved ones recently. May the souls of the departed rest in peace: retired maintenance staff member and companion of Diana Reynolds, Dave Totten. Please keep the Totten family and Mrs. Reynolds in your thoughts and prayers.

**WELCOME TO THE WORLD**—With great joy we announce the arrival of Clara June Shirley. Clara was born on March 18 to high school English teacher Kate Shirley and her husband Pete. Clara was 6 lbs. 10 oz. and 20 inches long. The Shirley family is happy and healthy!

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Academic Updates.....	1-2	Notes from the PVA.....	7
Tuition and Calendar Information.....	3-4	Parent Volunteers Needed .....	7-8
Notes from the Academic Advisor.....	4-5	Athletic Updates.....	8
Handbook Reminders.....	5	From the School Office .....	9
Upcoming Events.....	5	Congratulations.....	10
Community Service and Giving.....	6	Many Thanks.....	10
Campus Ministry.....	6-7	Calendar.....	11

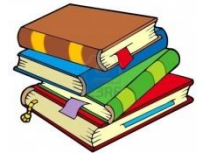
## ACADEMIC UPDATES

**THIRD QUARTER REPORT CARDS WERE MAILED TODAY**– When you receive report cards, please review the grades and teacher comments with your children. Highlight the strengths you see, and identify areas for growth. If you see that your children's third quarter grades are not a reflection of their abilities, discuss with them how they can

make the fourth quarter stronger. Use the detailed weekly reports from Ren Web to figure out exactly what is going on. Don't accept excuses. Though it's easy to get tired at this time of year, we will keep working until the end. Learning takes work, and it is important work! Please encourage your children to put forth the effort necessary to achieve their personal best.

**WINTER MAP SCORES**- are included in this mailing for sixth through tenth graders. The Family Report provides details on each student's national percentile and RIT score. Students will test again in late April/ early May. If you have questions about your child's MAP scores, please contact Meredith Aubel at [meredith.aubel@charlestoncatholic-crw.org](mailto:meredith.aubel@charlestoncatholic-crw.org).

**EIGHTH GRADE PSAT SCORES**- Results from the eighth grade's fall PSAT are included in this mailing. There were some difficulties in accessing their online reports, so printed copies have been included with their report cards. If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact Meredith Aubel at [meredith.aubel@charlestoncatholic-crw.org](mailto:meredith.aubel@charlestoncatholic-crw.org).



**SECOND SEMESTER EXAM SCHEDULE** – As the fourth quarter gets underway this week, we are now halfway through the second semester. Spring exams are not that far off! All classes have exams and exams must be taken at the scheduled times. Students who miss semester exams for reasons other than illness (who will be given the opportunity to make up the exams) will receive an F for those examinations. Just a reminder regarding the **seniors- only exam exemption policy**: Seniors may be exempt from second semester exams if: 1) the course is a two-semester course; 2) the teacher chooses to allow exam exemptions; 3) third and fourth quarter grades average to at least a 93; **4) fine arts requirements must have been completed by Friday, March 15, and community service requirements by Friday, April 26, 2024.** Students enrolled in AP courses must take the AP exam AND teacher-developed final exams. Seniors who meet exam exemption requirements for their AP classes may be exempt from teacher-developed final exams. Seniors in non-AP classes who choose to take AP exams will also take teacher-developed final exams unless they meet the exemption standards. Non-seniors who choose to take an AP exam for an AP class in which they are not enrolled must take the final exam for their class.

Seniors:	Tuesday/Wednesday, May 21/22 (schedule to be announced)	
Sixth grade:	Wednesday, 5/29	exams for periods 1 and 2; 11:15 dismissal
	Thursday, 5/30	exams for periods 7 and 8; 11:15 dismissal
	Friday, 5/31	exams for periods 3 and 5; 11:15 dismissal
7th/8th grade:	Tuesday, 5/28	exam for period 1 (8- 9:30 a.m.); 2:45 Dismissal
	Wednesday, 5/29	exams for periods 3 and 8; 11:15 dismissal
	Thursday, 5/30	exams for periods 4 and 7; 11:15 dismissal
	Friday, 5/31	exams for periods 2 and 5; 11:15 dismissal

\*\*Please note that 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will NOT take an exam in their foreign language or exploratory class. During that scheduled exam time, they will use the time to prepare for other exams. \*\*

High school:	Tuesday, 5/28	exam for period 1 (8 – 9:30 a.m.); 2:45 Dismissal
	Wednesday, 5/29	exams for periods 3 and 8; 11:15 dismissal
	Thursday, 5/30	exams for periods 4 and 7; 11:15 dismissal
	Friday, 5/31	exams for periods 2 and 6; 11:15 dismissal

## TUITION AND CALENDAR INFORMATION FOR 2024-25

**NEW STUDENTS FOR 2024-2025** – Applications for all grade levels are now available online ([www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org](http://www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org)). Applications will be completed and submitted online. Detailed instructions are available on the CCHS website. Please refer prospective families to the website!

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



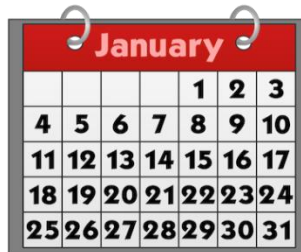
**SCHEDULING FORMS-** Students will receive forms with course options and details about course placement shortly after our return from Easter Break. Please take time to review the options with them and carefully consider the appropriate placement for your child (ren). Course placement is dependent on a variety of factors including academic achievement, classroom behavior, demonstrated work ethic, and standardized test scores, among others. Additionally, course offerings are determined by faculty availability and student interest. Course requests will be reviewed and placements determined over the next several months. Students will receive their schedules at registration in August.

**TUITION INVOICES FOR 2024-25**—will be released in mid-April. Invoices and loan information will be mailed in mid-April. If you choose to use a bank loan, the fees may be included in the loan amount or may be paid separately. To operate in a fiscally responsible manner, tuition increases for 2024-25 will be required and will fall in the 5-8% range. 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 payment in full is due June 15** (late charge assessed at \$1.00 per day after June 15) and **fee payment is due by the August registration date** (students will not be allowed to pick up their schedules until registration fees are paid). More details will be included in the tuition packet mailed in April.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT 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.** Awards are based upon a family's degree of need relative to all other applicants. Apply on-line at [www.factsmgt.com](http://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 ARE NOW OPEN.** 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 TENTATIVE calendar in mind as you plan for next year. 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 <sup>th</sup> graders



## NOTES FROM THE ACADEMIC ADVISOR

- 1.) The health department asks all schools to keep students' immunization records up to date. If your child has had recent shots, please send CCHS a copy of new health records. All rising **7th graders** are required to have a Tdap booster and first meningococcal vaccine before they enter school in August. **Rising 12th graders** are required to have the second dose of the meningococcal vaccine before they enter school in August. **Once your child has these vaccines, an updated immunization record must be submitted to Mrs. McLaughlin.**
- 2.) Reminder - Mrs. Aubel and Mrs. McLaughlin handle college visit requests. Students should get the forms and return the completed forms at least 2 days before the trip. **Seniors are allowed 2 college visit days; juniors are allowed 2 college visit days. College visits must be made before May 1.**
- 3.) SAT and ACT testing and registration information is available online at --[www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) and [www.act.org](http://www.act.org) (CCHS code: 490-205).
- 4.) Juniors should visit colleges during spring break and/or over the upcoming months. Schools want to see student interest even before you apply. When you visit schools in-person, be sure to pick up literature, talk to the West Virginia specific admissions personnel, talk to students, look at dorms and classrooms, try the food, meet professors, and ask "Does this atmosphere suit me?" Remember it is just as important to learn the things you don't like about a school as the things you like about a school.

- 5.) **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.
- 6.) **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 the school day.

## HANDBOOK REMINDERS

**UNIFORM SHORTS-** The time for uniform shorts is almost upon us (beginning April 15). Please take a few moments to review the handbook guidelines for uniform shorts. Navy blue twill shorts must be no higher than 2 inches above the knee. Shorts must not have any visible labeling or rivets. Uniform shorts are not cargo style. Shorts must be worn at the waist and be of modest fit. Shorts must not be faded. Students wearing worn, faded shorts will be considered out of uniform. Shorts are worn from the beginning of the school year until October 15 and beginning April 15 until the end of the school year.

**EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES -** In order to participate in extracurricular activities on a particular day, a student must be in school for the FULL DAY on the day of the event. This "full day" policy includes appointments, so students need to avoid scheduling appointments during the school day. Students who have long-standing medical appointments, family funerals, or similar instances may be excused at the discretion of the Assistant Principal for Operations. Additionally, students must be at school for the majority of the school day in order to be eligible for practice. **Students are also expected to be on time on days following athletic events. If a student is suspended at school, that student is also suspended from athletic practices, games, etc. for the FULL DAY on the day(s) suspended (i.e., if a student is suspended for a Tuesday, the suspension includes involvement in any school activities -- sports, social, etc. -- for Tuesday evening also).**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**CCHS DRAMA--** is proud to present *Antigone*, a Greek tragedy by Sophocles as 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.



**PARTIAL SOLAR ECLIPSE IN WEST VIRGINIA ON APRIL 8, 2024-** The PVA has kindly purchased solar eclipse viewing glasses for all students and faculty of CCHS. These glasses will be distributed during 8th period on the day of the eclipse. Mrs. Arnold is discussing the proper use of the glasses with all students, and a review of safe use of the glasses will be made at the time of distribution. The maximum eclipse in West Virginia is around 93%, and at no time will it be safe to view the sun without approved eye protection. In Charleston, the eclipse will start at 1:55 pm, reach maximum at 3:13 pm and end at 4:27 pm. Happy viewing!

**GOLF TOURNAMENT**—Join us for the Irish Classic Golf Tournament to support the CCHS Athletic Department at Berry Hills Country Club on May 13. Tee-off times start at 10am with registration opening at 8 am. Hole sponsors are needed at the \$100 level. For more sponsorship information or to register to golf, contact Jacob Nelson at [Jacob.nelson@charlestoncatholic-crw.org](mailto:Jacob.nelson@charlestoncatholic-crw.org).

## COMMUNITY SERVICE AND GIVING

**SUPPORT CCHS AS YOU SHOP**—Please support Charleston Catholic through the Kroger rewards program. The **Kroger Community Rewards** program can be used every time you grocery shop. To enroll, go to [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://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.

**CCHS DAY OF GIVING**— Charleston Catholic will once again be participating in the Diocese's annual Catholic Schools' giving day, **One Mission One Day to Make a Difference**, on **Tuesday, May 7, 2024**. We are now 39 days out! Please consider a gift to support CCHS. Our goal is \$15,000. Please consider participating in this online giving event!

**DONATE TO HOPE 2024**— Planning continues for our 19<sup>th</sup> 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 is underway 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. And thanks to everyone who joined us on March 3 for our HOPE Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser. We appreciate your support!



**CAMPUS MINISTRY**



- 1.) Mark your calendars for upcoming retreats!
  - The 8<sup>th</sup> grade retreat will be Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at Spring Heights Retreat Center. Transportation is being arranged and lunch is provided.
  - The freshman retreat will be at Camp Virgil Tate on Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>! Parent drivers are needed. If you are able to help drive students from CCHS to and from Camp Virgil Tate, please email Molly Linehan Belcher: [molly.linehan@charlestoncatholic-crw.org](mailto:molly.linehan@charlestoncatholic-crw.org).
- 2.) In order to be exempt from exams, seniors must complete their community service requirement by Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. All seniors must have their 30 hours (at least 15 hours serving the poor and vulnerable) completed in order to graduate.
  - For grades 6-11, all service hours are due by May 17<sup>th</sup>.
- 3.) Charleston Catholic Students continue to serve at the Martin Luther King Center on Charleston's West Side. Mrs. Williams joins the students each Thursday (3:30-4:30) as they help grade school children with

homework and study skills. Any sophomore, junior or senior who would like to join the MLK Center afterschool program should email Mrs. Williams ([michaila.williams@charlestoncatholic-crw.org](mailto:michaila.williams@charlestoncatholic-crw.org)).

- 4.) Many students collected money for Catholic Relief Services using the Rice Bowl program. Anyone with Rice Bowls at home should bring the money they collected to CCHS by Friday, April 12th.

## NOTES FROM THE PARENT VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION (PVA)

**All volunteers must be 100% VIRTUS compliant.**

- 1.) **PVA Polos and Fleece** - Order forms for CCHS logo jackets (including the heavier weight grey jacket and 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. 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. The order window is now open for polo shirts through March 29. Please use this link to order: <http://cchsuniforms.itemorder.com/>. 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.
- 2.) **Cafeteria volunteers**– Many thanks to those of you who volunteered to help in the cafeteria. Please be sure you report for duty on the days you are scheduled and 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.  
**\*\*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 (304-546-3081 or [tina.caldwell1987@gmail.com](mailto: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. \*\***
- 3.) **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 in a variety of ways. Please help how you can and cheer on the Irish!
- 4.) **Athletic family passes** are available through the PVA. As the spring season gets underway, it may be time to invest in a pass! 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, or any SSAC tournaments. Cost is \$150 for all home middle school games only, \$175 for all home high school games only, and \$200 for all home games (both levels). A \$100 student or senior citizen pass for all home games is also available. Please contact Kerri Linton at 304-228-4138 or [klinton@pcsolutions.com](mailto:klinton@pcsolutions.com) if you have questions about these passes.
- 5.) **PVA volunteer forms** are still being accepted. Our entire school community benefits from parent involvement! The Parent Registration Packet is available on the CCHS website.

## PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**ATTENTION: FRESHMAN PARENTS** – The 9<sup>th</sup> grade class will continue the tradition of hosting the Baccalaureate reception for this year’s graduating seniors and their families on Thursday evening, May 23, 2024. This event takes significant planning and input from all freshmen parents. We are in need of voluntary monetary donations from 9<sup>th</sup> grade parents to provide an unforgettable evening for our seniors!! Please contact Sabrena Gillis 304-389-6870 and Katie Paulson 304-610-6106 for further information. A special thanks to everyone who has already contributed time and treasure!

**ATTENTION: SOPHOMORE PARENTS** – Hosting Project Graduation is the tenth grade parent project. It is an all-night lock-in aimed at giving the graduating class a safe and fun place to celebrate with their classmates and the junior class one last time. This year it is scheduled to be at the Charleston YMCA on Friday, May 24, 2024 from 10:00 p.m. – 4:00 a.m. We still need several more volunteers to chaperone this event. We are also in need of more donations to use as prizes. All donations can be dropped off at the office at any time. For more information, please contact Ashley Stapleton 304-545-3800, Mary Pozega 304-395-0335, or Courtney Lohri 443-865-1852. Thank you in advance!

## ATHLETIC UPDATES

**TRAVEL**—Students may not drive to school events, such as field trips or “away” athletic events, taking place at locations other than Charleston Catholic facilities or other designated “home” locations. Students must ride to and from the event with adults (age 21 or older) who have met the Diocesan requirements for field trip drivers.

### **WINTER SPORTS WRAP UP—**

**High School Girls Basketball-** The Lady Irish had another incredible season and made the State Tournament for the fourth straight season! They fell short in the first round by 5 points to the eventual State Champion Wyoming East. Mary Rushworth was on the AA All Tournament team and was also named 2nd team AA All State. Congratulations on a great season, Irish and Coaches. We will miss our only senior, Sarah Rahin!

**High School Boys Basketball-** It was a season to remember as the boys’ basketball team won the AA State Championship for the first time in thrilling fashion. They defeated Bluefield by three points after clutch free throws by Max Wilcox. Jayallen Turner (the leading scorer in school history for boys’ basketball) was Tournament MVP. Zaden Ranson was AA All Tournament and State Championship Player of the Game. The Irish finished the season 24-4 and brought Charleston Catholic their fifth Boys Basketball Championship in program history (2000, 2006, 2007, 2012, 2024). Congratulations to the team and coaches on a fantastic season.

Congratulations to Athletic Director Jacob Nelson won the WVADA Middle School Athletic Director of the Year in the State of West Virginia. Jake will be recognized at the Athletic Director conference on March 23. Jake’s contributions to our Athletic Department are too many to name, but they include championships at both the middle and high school levels, Spirit Day Kick Off on the first day of school, Fired Up Friday success, and the Sports Media Class. Jake’s dedication to CCHS and the student athletes is much appreciated!

**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](#).





## FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

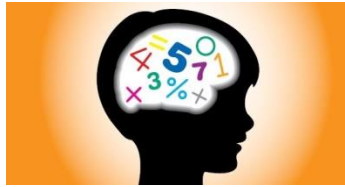
**VIRTUS**– Be sure you're able to help! All parents or other adults who volunteer, coach, drive students, chaperone, etc., are required by the Diocese to complete the diocesan sexual abuse awareness training before being allowed to work with our students. Training is available online or at sessions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

There will be a new process for the remaining two components of compliance. They will be completed using digital forms through the Virtus system ([virtus.org](http://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. If you have forgotten your password, or your user name, you can also call the Virtus help desk at 1-888-847-8870.

**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.**

The Diocese encourages reporting to civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. In addition to civil authorities, you may also report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel or volunteers of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, by contacting one of the Bishop's designees at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext.353; Fr. Dennis Schuelkens, ext. 270 or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504. You may also visit [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org), under "Accountability" for additional reporting mechanisms.

**FREE MATH TUTORING**-- As a service to Charleston Catholic students, our school's chapter of Mu Alpha Theta provides free math tutoring. This year, the tutoring service will take 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. Griffith at [sarah.griffith@charlestoncatholic-crw.org](mailto:sarah.griffith@charlestoncatholic-crw.org).



**YEARBOOK UPDATES**—We need your help gathering pictures for the yearbook! 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.

Also, the yearbook is in need of middle school pictures (especially sports pictures). Please submit pictures to our app - Walsworth's Yearbook Snap App. Use code goirish.



## CONGRATULATIONS

- to Zach Harrison for placing 5th, Nicole Gao for placing 13th, and Joey Muchow for placing 14th at regional math field day and to 8th grader, Altay Bayraktar for placing 2nd. We wish good luck to Zach and Altay as they move on to attend WV State Math Field Day on April 20th at Concord University.
- to sixth grader Thomas Bailey for winning second place in the Regional Social Studies Fair competition this week! He competed against students representing Boone, Clay, Kanawha, and Putnam Counties.
- to the High School Science Olympiad Team that competed in the State Science Olympiad Tournament at Marshall on March 2. William Salutillo, Zach Harrison, and Ewan Becher won third place medals in Experimental Design. Abigail Dotson and Hannah Vriendt won third place medals for Forensics and also third place for Disease Detectives. Telina Williams and Julie Jadue placed third in Fossils. Tony Singh and Nicole Gao were third place medal winners in Optics. Luca DiCocco and Telina Williams brought home first place medals in the Fermi Questions competition. Other participants were Michelle Pauley, Isaac Collins, Katherine Reehling, Mira Bali, and Callie Bumgarner. Congratulations to all participants. The team will start preparing for next year's tournament in August! See Mrs. Arnold for more information.
- to the High School Quiz Bowl Team members on their strong showing at the Regional Academic Showdown at West Virginia State University on February 23. Both teams won their first round and the A team went on to the third level of competition before losing to GW by one point. That team was led by our only junior, John Settle and our two sophomore players, Abigail Dotson and Ellie Hoblitzell. The all freshman B team included Jude Griffith, Katelyn Hentschel, and captain Owen Newell. The team had a great year, qualifying for the NAQT National Tournament based on their performance at a tournament in Virginia last fall.
- to eighth graders Bailee King and Luke Passmore who have been selected as Charleston Catholic's representatives to the West Virginia Ambassadors Camp, an educational summer camp at the University of Charleston developed by the WV Department of Arts, Culture and History with the support of the WV Department of Education. The camp was established in 2013 for the State's Sesquicentennial celebration as a way to recognize outstanding students while providing them with opportunities to learn more about West Virginia history, culture and arts. Additional congratulations to Rachel Lough and Sabian Rashid who will be alternates to the Ambassadors Camp.



## MANY THANKS

- to the Parent Volunteer Association for a smorgasbord of amazing St. Patrick's Day treats for the faculty and staff.
- to Samuel Levenson, CCHS Class of 2016 and current PhD candidate at Cornell, for returning to CCHS to give an enlightening science seminar on particle accelerators.
- to Karen Kish, manager of the Ward Hollow Wildlife Habitat at Technology Park in South Charleston for meeting with the middle and high school science teachers to discuss opportunities for science field trips.
- to Paul Sheridan who spoke with our junior theology classes about Civil Rights in West Virginia.
- to the staff at the West Virginia Institute of Spirituality who led the sophomore retreat on Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. A huge thank you to Sister Carole Riley, C.D.P., Rev. Randy Richardson, Sister Molly Maloney, Mrs. Ann Winton, Rev. Rindy Trouteaud, Mrs. P.J. Scarr, Sister Wendolyn Lopez, C.D.P. and Sister Betsa Palomino, C.D.P. for leading our students in a thoughtful day on the Beatitudes. Also, we thank B'nai Jacob Synagogue and Trinity Lutheran Church for helping to host the retreat.
- to all who came out to support the HOPE project through the Spaghetti Dinner. A special thank you to Ms. Kaitlin Chinn, Mr. Jesse Linehan Belcher, and Mrs. Nancy McLaughlin, for their cooking and help making the dinner run so smoothly!

**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 (if those students have not been participating in classes virtually) 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.

Mon., March 25- Tues., March 26	National Spanish Exam
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 <sup>th</sup> graders