

The Centurion Times

Excellence in Education. Foundations in Faith.



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Important Dates

- Nov. 7—No School—In service
 - Nov. 8-10—Book Fair
 - Nov. 11—No School—Veteran's Day Holiday
 - Nov. 12—Annual Sporting Clay Event
 - Nov. 18— Progress Reports
 - Nov. 23—25—Thanksgiving Holiday—No school
- Save the Date:**
- December 13— 6th-8th Grade Holiday Musical Performance in the Hilldale Church of Christ Auditorium

November 2011

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News from the Head of School

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Thanksgiving....God has given us an abundance of blessings of which we are thankful. Yet, there are many in our midst suffering with loss, trial, and tribulations. Let us be reminded that our hope is in Christ and our reward is in heaven. May each and every one of us give thanks for our blessings and use those blessings to serve others! Romans 12:12 – *Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer.*

Did you know there is a parent prayer group here at CCS on Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m.? I am so thankful for this group that lifts up praises to God for the great things He has done for CCS, the faculty and staff, the students and their families, and for me! Additionally, I give them weekly prayer requests, and the comfort of knowing there are multiple people praying for the concerns of our school family is so powerful. Confidentiality is always kept, and I ask each person before I add them by name to the prayer list. The Bible tells us to pray for one another (James 5:16). If you want more information about the parent prayer group, contact Gayle Birchfield @ 647-8180 to leave a message. She will return your call.

The Well is so thankful for the contributions each month to their pantry. All our families are generous in this regard. For November, the food of the month is mac-n-cheese. The Well is really hurting for food items. Would you consider bringing a box of mac-n-cheese plus one item a family would enjoy for Thanksgiving? Yams, corn, boxed stuffing, or your favorite would really make our donation special as the volunteers make boxes to distribute this month. Thank you again for serving the less fortunate in Clarksville!

Personally, I am thankful for the opportunity to serve God by serving you. I love each and every student and keep you in my prayers. I hope you have a blessed Thanksgiving!

In His Service,

Lisa Tucker

News from the Nurse
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Fall is here! The weather is beginning to get cooler, and with cooler weather comes those yucky fall and winter illnesses. One of the most potentially serious contagious illnesses we see in our area every winter is the flu. This year, the Centers for Disease Control recommends that everyone six months and older receive a flu vaccine as soon as it is available this fall unless you have a specific contraindication to the flu vaccine.

The 2011-2012 flu vaccine will protect against three different flu viruses: an H3N2 virus (a type of influenza A), an influenza B virus and the H1N1 virus. These are the same viruses that were included in the 2010-11 flu vaccine last year. Even if you received the flu shot last year, everyone should get vaccinated again this year. Although the viruses in the vaccine are the same as last year, immunity to influenza declines over time, and may be too low to provide protection after a year.

Please contact your primary care physician or the Montgomery County Health Department to receive your flu vaccine so we can all stay healthy this winter!

Michelle Roberts, RN, BSN

Ms. Cameron's Pre-K-2nd Integrated News
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It was nice to see so many of our students at the Fall Festival! I have noticed how well all of the students are doing in social situations, and that is a huge goal for each of them. They are all growing and maturing a little more each day. The month of November will be busy! We will be learning about the Pilgrims and the first Thanksgiving, and discussing how much we have been blessed by God. We will have two short weeks in November, the 7th and 11th will be no school, as well as the 23-25th. We're looking forward to a great month!



Ms. Atwell's 3-5th Integrated News
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Mrs. Atwell & Mr. Corey's Students are:

T-hankful

U-nique

R-espectful

K-ind

E-ager to help

y-awning after eating all that YUMMY food!!

This month we are collecting Mac N Cheese for The Well. Thank you for your continued support. We hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Ms. Gwyn's Kindergarten News
ghuggins@clarksvillechristianschool.org

Ready or not, the holidays are here! We have many exciting things in store in the months to come. Please mark your calendars for a special holiday program November 22nd. This month we will be studying food and nutrition and animal habitats in Science. We will make cards for Veterans. We will learn about Pilgrims and Native American contributions to our way of life. Thank you for your continued support and prayers.



Ms. Tracey's First Grade News
mtracey@clarksvillechristianschool.org



During November, the first grade will take a break from our Reading Series and read Molly's Pilgrim. Students will participate in a Native American POW-WOW as we learn about the Pilgrims and early settlers of our country. Fish and birds will be our focus in Science and in Math. We will continue practicing money, time, addition, subtraction and hundreds place value as well as learning new math skills. We really enjoyed our trip to Honeysuckle Hill Farm and many thanks to the parents that gave of their time to go with us. I hope all of you have a safe and happy Thanksgiving !

Ms. Selena's First/Second Grade News
sjames@clarksvillechristianschool.org

Nature and weather
Old versus new
Veterans appreciated
Eating the first Thanksgiving feast
Main Idea of paragraphs
Book fair fun
Ending or beginning
Rounding to nearest ten

Love,
Ms. Selena

Ms. Davis' Second Grade News
sdavis@clarksvillechristianschool.org

Hello Parents!

It's hard to believe that November is already here! November 1st will be the day of our rescheduled field trip to RiverView Mounds Century Farm. I am trying to get a spring date for our trip to Historic Collinsville and will let everyone know later. Our class will be participating in the Trees of Christmas at the Smith-Trahern Mansion in December. This year's theme is: A Global Experience: Celebrating Diversity. We have not yet received our continent choice, but when we do, I will be looking for some VCP's (very creative parents) to help us. We will also be taking a trip to see all of the trees once the decorating of the mansion is complete. A special thank you to everyone in our class who participated in the CCS Fall Festival. It was just a grand night.

Continue to help your children with spelling, reading, and math skills. Timed drills tests in math are going very well. Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Ms. Pigg's Third Grade News
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Geometry is fun! We know the difference between lines and line segments, parallel lines and intersecting lines, solid figures and plane figures, and obtuse, acute, and right angles. Lines of symmetry, congruent figures, ordered pairs, slides, flips and turns: We learned it all in third grade geometry.

In Language we can do contractions, homonyms, synonyms, and antonyms. Sometimes we get plurals and possessives mixed up, though. We are learning new cursive letters all the time. Soon we will start on the capital letters, then we can write sentences in cursive. Aren't we smart?

We are reading a unit on the history of money in different countries. Coins, paper money, and bartering are included. We also learned about the steps involved in taking natural resources and making a finished product.

At the end of each day, Mrs. Pigg is reading Anne of Green Gables to us. Anne has quite a scope for the imagination. Next we will read Hank the Cowdog. Hank has quite an imagination, too!



Ms. Castner's Third/Fourth News
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This month, students will prepare for their second book share for the year. Presentation dates will be on November 29,30 and December 1st. Be on the look-out for you students date in their planner. Also, we will be competing in the 4-H Speech contest. Speeches are due on November 8th and each student will give their speech during the meeting on that date. Speeches must be 2-3 minutes in length on a topic of the students' choice. We will begin working on them in class, and the student will be responsible for the final product. Please be sure to check your student's planner on a daily basis to be on the look out for assignments and due dates. These dates are also posted on Sycamore. Thank you for all you do!!!

Ms. Shepler's Fifth Grade News
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Second quarter in the fifth grade means learning about the Civil War, its causes, and its effects on the development of the United States and a unified country. We'll be learning some of the important personalities that played a role in this historic period and how their choices shaped the past as well as the present and future. Field trips to Ft. Donelson and Lylewood Inn for November and December to experience more about the Civil War are being planned. Hopefully, we'll be able to attend both. At the same time that we are studying this in Social Studies, we will also be reading the novel, Across Five Aprils, by Irene Hunt, which is a historical fiction book set in the Civil War years.

P.A.C. News
Saylefamilly@att.net

Thanks to everyone who helped to make our Fall Festival a success! We appreciate everyone's donations of items, time, and especially the prayers for our school! Everyone's efforts raised \$6,054. These funds will be used by our PAC to support the students of CCS. Our next big event to put on your calendars is our annual Book Fair coming up on November 8-10. We will need volunteers to help set up, run, and pack up afterwards. If you are interested in helping, please send an email to saylefamilly@att.net and let me know what you would like to do! We are also planning a family game night soon, so keep an eye out —details will be sent home with your child!

Ms. Hartwig wants to thank everyone for sending in your boxtops! She recently sent in a shipment with over \$400 worth of your boxtops! Look for a collection sheet to go home over the holidays for a class contest. Save all those boxtops from your holiday baking (think Betty Crocker & Pillsbury)! The class that brings in the most boxtops will receive a pizza party! Please remember to label any boxtops you send in (either on collection sheets or in a Ziploc baggie) with your child's name and class.

Library News
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It's Fall Book Fair time! This year we will have two "preview days" for teachers and students to fill out their wish lists, on Thursday and Friday (November 3-4). After our long weekend, book fair will be open Tuesday through Thursday (Nov. 8-10). With holidays coming up, it's a great time to buy books for teachers, students and anyone else on your gift list! Remember that half of the proceeds from Book Fair goes to our library to purchase fixtures and MORE BOOKS! Your generous purchases last year earned over \$5200.00 worth of new books for your children to enjoy. (The library ladies know that children always notice new books!)

Ms. Norris' Spanish News enorris@clarksvillechristianschool.org

Our mini-unit in November is El Dia de los Muertos (The Day of the Dead). This celebration, which happens on November 1st and 2nd, is prominent in Spanish speaking countries, and celebrates ancestors who have passed on. Each grade will be doing a special activity based on the holiday and will learn new vocabulary and customs related to it as well. We have also been learning various vocabulary words which includes colors, numbers, classroom vocabulary, and greetings/leave-takings. Our Spanish memory verse this 9 weeks comes from Efesios 6:1 (Ephesians 6:1). "Hijos, obedezcan en el Señor a sus padres..." (Children, obey your parents in the Lord...)

¡Tienen un gran noviembre! (Have a great November!)

Ms. Travis' P.E. News stravis@clarksvillechristianschool.org

In P.E., I want every child to feel that he or she can play freely and enjoy that active time. Something I have had to talk about a lot lately, however, is about not being too rough in play. We have lots of children with lots of different ideas of what "play" is. When a child is being so rough that others seem to fear that person and are afraid to play with that person, I must step in. A lot of the time, they tell me that's how they play at home with their brother or sister. I understand that it may be harmless to some, but if it is stifling others it is best that those activities occur outside of school under parental supervision. I must do what is best for the group when it comes to things that can cause injury. If you have any concerns, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your continued support.

Ms. Travis' Art News

Lower school is beginning to talk about texture in art. Texture is the way something feels or looks as though it might feel if we could touch it. As artists, we are always working to create the illusion of something in our work, and we are going to try to make the viewer want to reach into our drawings and paintings because the textures are tantalizing!



Middle Schoolers are wrapping up their color wheel motif paintings and will be starting on their next project soon which will involve portraiture. Students will be putting their drawing skills to the test!

Ms. Norris' Music News

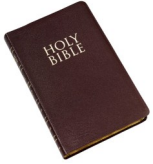
In Kindergarten through Second grade, we are working hard to earn 10 positive points in order to receive a special music day this month! This is to reward their good behavior in music class. In November, we will be learning songs of thankfulness and will also begin to learn patriotic songs. We continue to follow our normal music class procedure with echo and simple songs, ariosos, and beat motion activities.

Third, fourth, and fifth grades are each doing a unit on a specific tone poem or suite. Third grade is finishing up "Carnival of Animals" by Camille Saint-Saens. Fourth grade is finishing up "Peer Gynt" by Edvard Grieg (they can play "Morning" and "In the Hall of the Mountain King" on bells and Boomwhackers®). Fifth grade is finishing up "Peter and the Wolf" by Sergei Prokofiev. We work on both singing and playing the melodies, as well as aurally recognizing each song. These three grades are also working to receive their 10 positive points soon!

Middle school is hitting the ground running with Christmas music. Our performance will be on **Tuesday December 13th @ 6:30 pm** in the Hilldale church of Christ auditorium. Our performance is called "The Spirit of Christmas" and will have great graphic visuals provided by Fine-Line Graphics®. There is a website provided with the audio files of each song and each voice part, as well as a PDF of all the lyrics. The students are required to visit the site at least twice a week to practice their songs outside of class. The students have the URL and understand their responsibilities. Let Mrs. Norris know if there are any questions.

Mr. Cameron's Bible News

acameron@clarksvillechristianschool.org



Now that Fall Break is over, we have begun the second nine weeks grading period. These nine weeks I will be uploading my lesson plans to this web site. You are free to look at what I am doing and planning on teaching. I hope this will help in communication with you, the parents.

We began this second nine weeks with keeping a prayer journal in our Bible classes. This journal is a way for the students to keep track of their prayers and reflect on how God answers them. Each Monday we will be taking time in class to write in our prayer journal, and hopefully we will be able to see how God is working in our lives through prayer.

Ms. Latham's Social Studies News

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Things are going great in the Social Studies department! I am so proud of all of my students for their hard work and participation in class. I am seeing lots of effort, and it is paying off with good grades.

November will see my 6th graders studying Ancient Greece and early India. The 7th grade will finish our study of Latin America, and we may get started on Europe. The 8th grade will have finished the Revolutionary War and will be learning about how our country started. The 9th grade will be studying Absolutism in Europe and will briefly look at the Muslim world and Asian Empires. The 10th grade will explore the reasons why the United States became a world power in the late 1800's and early 1900's.

Please check Sycamore for grades frequently. I post several times a week and take lots of grades. Sycamore is the best way for you to stay on top of your child's progress! As always, feel free to email me with any questions.

Special Note: I am sponsoring a new Scrapbook Club here at CCS. If your child is interested, let me know. I think it will be a lot of fun! Its not just for girls.....anyone can create a scrapbook of their school years. Trust me, they will not regret it. Its so much fun to look back on these years as you get older.



Ms. Neil's English News

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In the land of English, we are working on our creative writing! The 7th graders are working on their preposition songs while the 8th graders are studying the short stories of Edgar Allen Poe, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, and a few others. The 6th graders are getting ready to start learning about Poetry. I can't wait to see how many poets we have at CCS!! The 9th and 10th graders are working on a research/persuasive paper on a topic of their choice. During the month of November, all of the high school will be going to see a production of "A Tale of Two Cities" at the Roxy Theater! Mrs. Haase and I will be accompanying them on this historical trip as it is the culmination of our study of the above mentioned book! Quote of the Month: *"Literature adds to reality, it does not simply describe it. It enriches the necessary competencies that daily life requires and provides; and in this respect, it irrigates the deserts that our lives have already become."* - C.S. Lewis

Ms. Toomb's Math News
mtoombs@clarksvillechristianschool.org

Welcome to the world of mathematics. This month we have our first national math test. Hopefully we will do as well as we did last year. We have very competent students with the mathematical ability and the desire to do well.

In Geometry we are studying parallel lines and logic. In Algebra I we are studying absolute value and solving equations. In 8th grade we are studying rational and irrational numbers. In 7th grade we are studying exponents and variables, and in 6th grade we are studying graphing, sequences, and series.

I am trying to get students involved in their own learning by helping each other and working together. You don't really understand a topic unless you can teach it to someone else; therefore we are working in groups to help each other with topics that we don't understand. Peer teaching is a great way to learn. Also, the holidays are coming and all are excited about days off. Staying caught up in all subjects is important, too. Please continue to push your students to do their best in all subjects.

Ms. Little's Science News
llittle@clarksvillechristianschool.org

As we enter into the Holiday season and cooler temperatures, students are filling their heads with science knowledge. I hope everyone has an enjoyable Thanksgiving break. I know that I am thankful for all I am blessed with each and everyday. I would like to thank each parent for allowing me to teach your child about the wonders of God's creation and design.

Science topics for November:

Biology - Genetics
6th Grade - Weather
7th Grade - Forces and Motion, Types of Machines
8th Grade - Mixtures, Solutions, Acids, and Bases
Physical Science - Work, Power, and Machines
Lifetime Wellness- Health and Disease



News from "The Well"

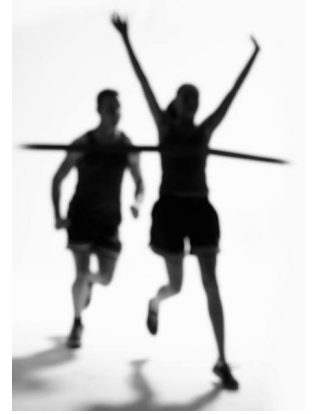


For the month of November, the folks at The Well are asking for boxed mac-n-cheese. We are each so blessed, and we often take for granted that we each have plenty to eat. If you are able, pick up a box (or more) of mac-n-cheese to share with someone who is in need. It is especially important for us to remember those who are less fortunate as the holiday season approaches and as we have challenges with cooler weather and increased utility bills! God loves a cheerful giver!

Coach Castner's Cross Country News

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I am very proud of the hard work and dedication shown by this year's Cross Country team. Each member of the team improved their times every week. The Middle and High school boys and girls will run their final meet on October 31st. Be on the lookout for the final results! Thank you to all of those who volunteered to drive the bus, organize snacks, or come out and cheer on our kids! We will have our banquet and awards night on Friday, November 18th at 6:00 P.M. Please be on the lookout for more information to be sent home about this event.



Coach Castner's Basketball News

bcastner@clarksvillechristianschool.org

CCS is very excited to offer JV boys and girls basketball this year. Both teams started practicing in October and have been working extremely hard! We will be participating in our first scrimmage this month and will announce a more complete scrimmage and game schedule soon. We currently have 5 boys- Landon Darnell, Hunter Burkhart, Colton Miller, Tyler Stilke, and Dawson Cumberland. On the girl's team, we have Kelly Anne James, Tayler Jackson, Lindsey Mimms, Sara Huggins, Allison Uyen, Rachel Girndt, and Keegan Warrick. We are also very excited to have 4 fifth grade team managers. Our boy's team managers are Chloe Fisher and Brian Garrett, and the girl's managers are Rachel Tucker and Hannah Motes. These 4 students completed an application and interview process in order to apply for the manager position and will assist Coach Castner during practices and have the opportunity to learn some necessary basketball fundamentals and skills as well. If you are still interested in joining the boy's or girl's team, and are in grades 6-10, there is still time. Please contact Coach Castner as soon as possible to receive information and a schedule. This is a such a great opportunity for our students!!!

Middle/High School Student Activities

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Thanks so much to the students who participated in the Fall Festival! You were a HUGE help. Also, it is really nice for the younger students to see you all stepping up and helping out at our events. They really look up to you and it's great for them to see you serving others.

November's surprised is to be announced....all I can say is get ready for some FUN!

—Mr. Corey