

SUI GENERIS, NULLI SECUNDA
CLASSICAL COTTAGE SCHOOL
ONE OF A KIND, SECOND TO NONE

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2009 NEWSLETTER

Announcements



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Judy Taylor

Dear CCS Families,

Dear New and Returning CCS Families,

Welcome or welcome back! Our first day of class for Academic Year 2009-2010 is Thursday, September 17th, starting with Chapel at 8:00 a.m.

We are very blessed to have a beautiful new facility this year, Calvary Baptist Church, in which to conduct classes. We once again want to remind families that Calvary Baptist is graciously allowing us to meet in their "treasured space" and we need to show the church the proper respect that a house of worship deserves. A concerted effort by all school families is needed.

Please take the time to share with your student(s) the new guidelines, as many have changed from our time at Covenant Christian Church. Rather than worry about adhering to a new set of guidelines, we can look at this as an opportunity to teach good stewardship to our children.

A few important reminders:

- 1) During the school day, please remain in the waiting room or stay quietly in the downstairs hallway until the break between classes (i.e., avoid going upstairs and interrupting classes in Parker Hall).
- 2) Respect all "Do Not Enter" signs, which encompass the following areas: the sanctuary, kitchen, choir room, vestibule, and any other areas marked "no admittance" or "Do Not Enter."

- 3) Anything which belongs to CBC (equipment, classroom supplies, etc.) is off limits to CCS. We must leave classrooms exactly the way we found them in the morning.
- 4) Only adults on the elevator, please. Also, only adults should move dividers in Parker Hall.
- 5) Obey parking guidelines.
- 6) **NO** food or drink except in Parker Hall.
- 7) Observe all Room Occupancy limits (posted in rooms) and fire code regulations. Parents are welcome to attend classes with their children... **except** when they would be violating the occupancy limit for the room.
- 8) Also in the Participation Guidelines, **students may not be outside without adult supervision.** This is extremely important and cannot be over-emphasized.
- 9) Obvious rules of orderly conduct: No running indoors, no gum, only "indoor voices" indoors, please remove hats indoors as a sign of respect.
- 10) Please do NOT call the church office, but use the CCS emergency number (Dana Heidelberger's cell phone: 540-539-6630).

You are our partners in this endeavor, and we hope that you will not only educate yourselves as to the expectations in our new location, but that you will be proactive as well! As the last paragraph of our Participation Guidelines says:

We are so grateful to be making this journey in the company of such wonderful families. While we will no doubt continue to experience a learning curve, it is our humble prayer that through communication, mutual effort, and God's grace the school will continue to be an abiding blessing to all involved.

"In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity."

Judy Taylor
Principal, Classical Cottage School

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: As in any organization of our size, we are always in need of volunteers to make our school function more effectively for all of us. Volunteering is a wonderful way to meet people and feel connected at CCS.

At this time Liz Martin, our Building Liaison, has specific volunteer needs for hall monitors and greeters. The **Greeter's Station** is located on the first floor. She would like a team of 2-3 parents to man the station each hour. Please contact Liz at ewmartin26@verizon.net if you are willing and able!

WELCOME TO NEW FAMILIES!

This year, we are delighted to welcome the following new families to CCS. Please seek out these newcomers, give them a warm welcome, and introduce them to others!

Cook	Pertain
Evans	Ressa
Frommack	Roque
Howard	Smith
LaPre'	Stowers
Max	Toomer
Mitchell	Treadway
Nix	White
O'Mara	

IMPORTANT DATES FOR FIRST WEEK:

- **Thursday, 9/10/09, 11:30 AM, Back-to-School Picnic at Berryville Park and Playground**
- **Monday, 9/14/09, 7-8:30 PM, Back-to-School Open House, Calvary Baptist Church (CBC)**
- **Thursday, 9/17/09, 8:00 AM, Classes Begin at 8:00 AM with Chapel at CBC**

ALTERNATE DIRECTIONS TO CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH:

Our website has a link to Google map directions to Calvary Baptist Church. However, for some families, it may be easier and quicker to take a route around town instead of going through downtown Winchester as the Google map directs you. Below are alternate routes for your consideration. Many, many thanks to Susan Schearer for taking the time to research (by car) and provide this information for the use of all school families:

--For those entering town via Route 50/17: (1) fight the traffic and stoplights through town, following signs for Route 50 WEST. OR (2) as you come over I-81, take the left fork at Shenandoah U, taking Jubal Early drive all the way to Route 11 (Valley Avenue). Keep going straight over Valley Ave., go to the second stop

sign (.8 mile), turn left on Armistead, then right on Breckenridge, which will take you to Merriman's Lane. Turn right onto Merriman's. It's .7 mile to Amherst (Route 50), turn right/East, drive .8 mile to Church, which will be on the left. There's a turn lane. It may sound complicated, but it cuts out half-a-dozen traffic lights and all Winchester's currently torn-up streets.

--From WV: take exit 317 off I-81, follow signs to Route 37. Go 3.9 miles and exit on Route 50 EAST. The church is one mile on the left.

--From Route 7: turn right at the traffic light onto Woods Mill (the light before traffic piles up at Red Bud Run Elementary School), go .2 mile and turn left onto Red Bud Road. Take 3 miles of country road to Route 11 and its intersection with I-81. Turn left/south and follow signs to Route 37. Go 3.9 miles and exit on Route 50 EAST. The church is one mile on the left.

--Alternate from Route 7: go to I-81 and exit North towards Martinsburg. Take the next exit 317, follow signs to Route 37. Go 3.9 miles and exit on Route 50 EAST. The church is one mile on the **left**. (Please note this is a correction from last week's email—the church will be on your left coming from this direction.)

ENTRANCE TO CBC PARKING LOTS/STREET

PARKING: Please note that there are small parking lots on either side of CBC. For additional parking, enter the church parking lot between the church offices in the white house and the church building and continue over the gravel road which will lead to street parking behind the church.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL PICNIC: Our Back-To-School Picnic will be held on Thursday, September 10th at Berryville Park, weather permitting. This is a great opportunity for new families to meet returning families in an informal setting and to get used to being out on Thursdays. Please see details under "Activities" towards the end of the newsletter for more information regarding our Back-To-School Picnic.

OPEN HOUSE: The Annual CCS Open House will be held on Monday, September 14, from 7:00-8:30 PM at the church. This is a time to help orient students by finding classrooms and meeting other families. While some teachers will be there, don't be disappointed if you have to wait until Thursday to meet them all! We ask that everybody complete and wear a nametag at the open house!

SCHOOL CALENDAR: A bimonthly calendar of upcoming events is included toward the end of every newsletter. A comprehensive, academic year calendar is also on our website and updated throughout the year.

2009-2010 OPERA SCHEDULE AT THE KENNDY CENTER: Attention opera lovers! We now have the 2009-2010 opera information. There is extensive information about this next academic year's opera schedule, Kennedy Center guidelines on attendance and how to order tickets. **Nancy Rodriguez must have your order and payment(s) by October 1st so please read the detailed information and follow the guidelines to order tickets.** Nancy's email is nrrodriguez@gmail.com if you have any questions.

CELL PHONES: Students MUST turn off their cell phones during class time (completely OFF, not on vibrate, unless permission has been given by the teacher). Parents may leave their phones on vibrate, but please be considerate and exit a classroom immediately if you need to take a call.

CLASS NEWS SECTION: Please read carefully the information in the "Class News" section for important reminders or updates about your child(ren)'s class(es).

JUNIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP DUES: Unlike the past two years, JCL dues have NOT been factored into Latin students' materials fees. This means that ALL students who wish to become members of the Junior Classical League must pay **\$5 dues BY SEPTEMBER 24**. A student does NOT have to be taking Latin or Greek to become a member. We hope that all students will consider joining, not only because the Junior Classical League is such an honorable organization and offers so many opportunities for students throughout our state and country, but also because the number of students that we can send to Richmond in November is dependent upon our membership: the more members, the more students we can send!

Please put \$5 (check or cash) per student in Mrs. Schearer's folder **by 2 p.m. on September 24** clipped to a piece of paper indicating the name(s) of the members. **Checks should be made payable to CCS JCL.**

MEMORY PERIOD

Jacki Prock

Memory Period, led by Jacki Prock, is held every Thursday from 12:30-12:45 PM at no cost to attend. Memory Period is especially helpful for the Level I and Level IA Certamen players who may be new to Latin. Their attendance at Memory Period will strengthen their Certamen play. Additionally, students in the Prima Lingua Latina classes benefit greatly by attending the weekly Memory Period and are encouraged to attend. While we know that the younger students especially cherish their lunch time play outside when weather permits, a concerted effort by parents to have their child end their outside play at 12:30 PM and attend Memory Period will reap great results! Don't let your child miss out on this wonderful enrichment activity available at no cost to you but providing invaluable benefits to your child's Latin education!

LITERARY MAGAZINE

SuSu Jennings

The literary magazine from 2008-2009 is still available. Please let SuSu Jennings know if you are interested in purchasing the magazine. The price is \$5.00. Start collecting pictures, stories and photos for this year's magazine. We will be accepting items throughout the year. Moms, especially, be on the lookout for a well drawn picture, a good poem, or creative story that your student has created. We need participation from all ages to make this the best magazine yet.

LOST AND FOUND

Aurelie Schmid

Label all your books, binders, lunch boxes, and back packs on the **OUTSIDE** if possible.



Chapel Encounter

Jacki Prock, Coordinator

Chapel Time: 8:00 - 8:10 a.m.

The first of every CCS day provides us with the opportunity of focusing our hearts and minds upon our Lord Jesus. Chapel is a brief, but powerful time to gather as families and allow the Lord to set the atmosphere for a successful day. I invite you to join us each Thursday morning.

We gather from 8:00-8:10 a.m. Yes it seems early, but our family has done it for the past 5 years. The other plus is that you are not late for classes!!

The chapel time often has music, a Bible devotion, the students are encouraged to pray together for the nation, and sometimes the group. When young ones are present, we also say the pledge of allegiance prior to prayer for our nation and leaders.

Countless times I have been amazed at how the Holy Spirit will weave something in the chapel time with a conversation or point of a lesson somewhere else in the CCS day. He is indeed VERY involved with teaching our children just as scripture says in Isaiah, "...your children shall be taught of the Lord and great shall be their peace (well-being)."

Please come...it is a small, but such an important part of your CCS day.

EVERYONE WELCOME! Let us all come together in worship and devotion as we place the Lord first in our CCS day. When we come together to share His word, we encounter Him and He prepares the atmosphere of His kingdom --- righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit --- in our school each week.

Upcoming Chapel Schedule

September 2009

Sept. 17	Mike Hofmann
Sept. 24	Todd Heidelberg



Money Matters

Helen Lawyer/Beth Schloemer

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Helen Lawyer

Second semester tuition is due on October 15th. If you are uncertain about the amount you owe, check the website for the tuition list ("Registration" tab, 2009-2010 Tuition Payments document). Failure to pay on time will result in a \$10/class late fee.

Fund Raising

Taryn Bell/Lorie Illsley

MARTIN'S & FOOD LION FUNDRAISING PROGRAMS

Taryn Bell

If you didn't give Taryn Bell your Martin's BonusCard and Food Lion MVP card numbers, please email her at bell.taryn@gmail.com with

the numbers from the cards. This is an easy way for CCS to get some extra money! Even teachers and grandparents can participate!

The Food Lion fundraising program is all year long. The Martin's program runs from October 4-March 13.

Remember to use your MVP card and Bonus Card when shopping!

BOXTOPS4EDUCATION

Lorie Illsley

CCS collects Boxtops4Education for fund raising purposes. There will be a collection box out on school days. Please start now "snipping the dime for us" and bring them in when classes begin and put them in the small blue box next to the large blue box.



Grammar School News

Nancy Juday, Coordinator

Welcome and welcome back to all new and returning CCS Grammar School students. I am looking forward to another exciting and worthwhile year and I hope you are as well. I have just a few reminders or comments as we get ready for our first day.

I know all of you have had a chance to learn about the guidelines at our new location and I would simply ask that parents take a moment and review them with your children.

Many of you have received emails regarding supplies, booklists, and the like for a certain class. If you haven't been contacted by a teacher, it is likely your child does not need anything specific for the class or that the teacher will provide additional information the first day of class. However, if you have any questions about your children's classes, please contact that teacher directly by email.

I am also in the process of compiling a list of substitutes to have for teachers' use should the need arise throughout the year. Being a Grammar School substitute does not require you to prepare for the class or have extensive knowledge of the class material. Substitutes are compensated and have a chance to meet your children's classmates and be a part of the education process. Please contact me with the hour or hours you are available each semester or if you have any questions.

Have a great first day and year!

Nancy Juday
Grammar School Coordinator

CHILDREN'S YEAR

Jeanette Weiler and Jan Wilkerson

Welcome Dear Children and Parents to Children's Year 2009-2010! Jan Wilkerson and I are so excited to meet your families in the next few weeks with the coming Welcome Picnic, Open House, and finally our first day of class. Please let your child/children know that from day one we will be having a grand time of song-singing, coloring and crafting, and reading. On our first day we will introduce and begin to establish our routine of a welcome worksheet that we work on together and that this year will introduce us to and help us fine-tune the dot-to-dot skill. Then we will come together as a group, get the willies out, and sing some calendar songs, and begin our calendar work. Following, we will head back to the table and for our first

week will work on nametags, followed by a letter per week. By the time we write again, we should be up to G. Lastly, we will enjoy a reading session with books having to do with our letter of the week or a season or holiday that we are approaching. Thank you for sharing your children with us this year. We pray that Children's Year will be a grand introduction to a classroom setting for your children. We are looking forward to meeting you all very soon. Most sincerely, Jeanette Weiler and Jan Wilkerson

EXPLORATORY SPANISH A & B

Helen Lawyer

I am looking forward to a wonderful year teaching your children. They are going to learn much as we explore Spanish. I will incorporate many games and even some music in an effort to make the learning fun and meaningful. Most weeks they will be bringing home a sheet that will help you review what we have learned that week. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

PRIMA LINGUA LATINA II

Dana Heidelberg

Salvete! I'm looking forward to another exciting year of laying a foundation for Upper School Latin by exploring basic grammar, vocabulary, mottoes, Roman history, and culture. This year students will receive a Dover coloring book so that they will have access to some great visuals as we focus on the end of the Roman Republic. Just like last year, students should bring a folder in which to store their papers (a 3-ring binder works best) and a set of colored pencils (optional). I look forward to our reunion this month!

PRIMA LINGUA LATINA III

Dana Heidelberg

Welcome back, PLL III students! Be sure to bring your Dover coloring book to class so that we will have some great visuals as we focus on the Empire (some of those emperors were pretty crazy!). Just like last year, students should bring a 3-ring binder and a set of colored pencils (optional). I look forward to our reunion this September—we'll begin with some fun review!

GREAT BOOKS II

Kim Schatz

We will be reading some wonderful "Great Books" in GB II this year. I am looking forward to meeting all new students this year! Some of the techniques I will employ for discussing stories read include narration, retelling, questioning,

picture interpretation and reenactments as feasible. We will begin the year with a fun(ny) book, "A Bargain for Frances", which will also provide us with a wealth of discussion material as we look closely at the characters, plot and conflict in this engaging story! After that, we will dive into several weeks of Norse myths and discuss the origin of myths, in general, and specifically, Norse myths (with a little Scandinavian geography included). We'll then hear and discuss several Aesop's Fables as we also learn about Aesop and the multitude of fables he wrote. The week after, I will read the medieval tale, "Chanticleer and the Fox", and compare it to Aesop's style of writing stories with "teachable moment morals". I look forward to working with your child(ren) over this next academic year and learning alongside him and/or her! I will contact parents of GB II students before the first day of class with my reading schedule for the year and more specific information about the class.

LEARNING THROUGH LITERATURE I

Susu Jennings

Welcome to the new school year! I am very excited to be teaching Learning Through Literature again this year. We will start by reading *Call it Courage* by Armstrong Sperry. This is a classic tale of a young boy discovering the courage he never knew he had. Students should come to class with the book, a dictionary, their three-ring binders, a highlighter, pencils and plenty of paper. They will be learning how to read a book to discover literary themes and terms. By highlighting passages, the students will learn to dissect a book and break it down into intricate parts. Classroom participation and discussion will also be an essential part of the course. After each book, the students will write a short paper on the book. But don't worry! We'll learn how to do that too.

LEARNING THROUGH LITERATURE II

Susu Jennings

Welcome back old and new students to a year of reading and learning. This class will begin with the book *The Wheel on the School* by Meindert DeJong. While some of the students have already read this book, we will be examining it with a microscope, looking at the details as well as studying the overall theme and structure. Plus it's a fun book to read. Please come to class prepared to learn and discuss. Remember the supplies needed are a three-ring binder, a dictionary, a highlighter, pencils and plenty of paper. Keeping your notebook organized will be helpful, especially as the year progresses. As with Learning Through Literature I, the students will be writing a short paper after we finish each book.

EARLY AMERICAN HISTORY II

Mimi Larsen

Welcome to Early American History for Children II! I look forward to seeing returning students as well as new students! This year we will travel through time learning about famous people, places, and events that helped shape our great country. Beginning with Reconstruction, we will progress through the twentieth century and end with the celebration of our own birthdays! Get ready for arts and crafts, copy work, book making, singing songs, playing games and more! See you on the 17th!

STORY OF THE WORLD III, EARLY MODERN TIMES

Emily Spriggs/Kristi Coons

We are pleased to welcome back our students from last year's class and are looking forward to meeting a few new ones! We are truly looking forward to seeing you each week in class starting on September 17th.

During our hour together we will learn exciting stories from the time of Queen Elizabeth the First to the Forty-Niners. We will also be doing some fun mapping activities and projects during most classes to reinforce our current lesson so bring lots of attention and energy with you.

Don't forget to pack your supplies including crayons/color pencils, #2 pencils, scissors and a glue stick. You may also want to have a separate folder to store the many maps and handouts we will be giving you.

We hope you are going to enjoy this weekly journey through history and are looking forward to learning together as much as we are!

Your "Historic" Teachers,
Kristi Coons and Emily Spriggs

CLASSICAL ART

Angie Steele

Welcome to Classical Art! We will begin our year studying, critiquing and creating our own Egyptian art. Most of the art materials will be supplied using the materials fee. However, a few items that your child should bring to every class include a pencil, liquid glue, colored pencils, scissors, a ruler and a folder for handouts. Also, if you have an old, oversized shirt that can be worn for messy activities, please bring it to class. Please let me know if you have any questions. I am looking forward to a fun year with all of you!

POETRY CLASSES

Kimberly Merline

I am really excited to be teaching the poetry classes for the Grammar school this year. My primary goal is to teach the kids that poetry is a lot of fun! Each week, we will begin class by reading at least one funny poem to get us all in the mood. Then we will review the poems we have memorized so far using fun activities like oral fill-in-the-blank, or call and answer, etc. Next, we will discuss and practice a new stanza (usually 4 lines) to be memorized the following week. The memory work poems are all from Andrew Pudewa's *Linguistic Development Through Poetry Memorization* curriculum, with the exception of selections from 'The Night Before Christmas', which we will learn before the holiday break. Finally, each class will end with a simple hands-on activity of some sort. For example, I plan to have them do an art project in conjunction with each poem so that at the end of the year, they will have an illustrated book of all of the poems that they have memorized. Also at the end of the year, any student who can recite all of the poems will get a "Poetry Memory Master" award and certificate.

EXPLORING GOD'S CREATION

Jen Wright

I am really looking forward to beginning our school year and meeting my students. Together

we are going to explore the world God made and learn many interesting things about His creation. The year will start with a discussion of our five senses because that is how we interact with our world. As we move into autumn, we will talk about the four seasons, apples and leaves (why they change color and fall). Finally we will wrap up October learning about day and night and we will discover many interesting things about spiders. My goal is to help the children investigate their world by questioning why and how things work and do simple experiments to find the answers. We will also read good books related to our topics and have many hands-on crafts and activities.

THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE

Mary Martinez

Hello students and families! I hope you're looking forward to a fun year exploring science in a classical fashion! Our year will be spent learning about Ancient, Renaissance, and Modern era scientists, inventors, and inventions and the impact they have on our lives today. We'll also perform a variety of experiments, using the proper scientific method to record our work. See you soon!



Upper School Latin Department

Susan & Hartley Schearer

JUNIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP

DUES: Unlike the past two years, JCL dues have NOT been factored into Latin students' materials fees. This means that ALL students who wish to become members of the Junior Classical League must pay **\$5 dues BY SEPTEMBER 24**. A student does NOT have to be taking Latin or Greek to become a member. We hope that all students will consider joining, not only because the Junior Classical League is such an honorable organization and offers so many opportunities for students throughout our state and country, but also because the number of students that we can send to Richmond in November is dependent upon our membership: the more members, the more students we can send!

Please put \$5 (check or cash) per student in Mrs. Schearer's folder **by 2 p.m. on September 24** once CCS begins clipped to a piece of paper indicating the name(s) of the members. **Checks should be made payable to CCS JCL.**

CERTAMEN

We will soon begin another great year of Certamen, an exciting and competitive game that tests Latin students' knowledge of Roman history and culture, Latin grammar, and Greek/Roman mythology. All Upper School Latin students are invited to learn about and participate in this fun game. This year, we welcome Teri Manion as Certamen Director! Our first informational and organizational meeting will be held on September 24th at 12:30 p.m. New players will be encouraged to purchase a Certamen Notebook for \$15 (payable to CCS) and parents of all players must fill out a Certamen Permission Form

and pay dues of \$30 (payable to CCS) for admission to competitions. Beginning October 1st, a fast-paced 15-minute practice session will occur at 12:30 p.m. every Thursday, and a one-hour practice session will follow Roman Culture on the 2nd Thursday of most months (except December, April or May). Students will attend approximately 8 competitions at various high schools throughout the state. The first Certamen of the year will be the VJCL Kick-Off Certamen at St. Stephen's/St. Agnes' School on Saturday, October 24. For more information, go to www.vjcl.org and click on "Certamen".

VIRGINIA JCL CONVENTION

The Virginia JCL Convention will be held November 22-23 in Richmond. **THE DEADLINE TO REGISTER TO ATTEND THE 2009 VJCL CONVENTION IS OCTOBER 1ST.**

LATIN ENRICHMENT PROGRAM (Roman Life & Culture) SCHEDULE FOR 2009-2010:

Below is this academic year's RL&C schedule. It is held at 2 p.m. on the second Thursday of most months. All students and parents are welcome to attend.

October 8	Rome Now and Then
November 12	Houses
December 10	Saturnalia: Christmas in Ancient Rome With Carols in Latin
January 14	Growing Up in Ancient Rome: Birth, Childhood, School, and Marriage. (Student volunteers needed!)
February 11	Classical Statuary
March 11	Roman Baths
April 8	Food and Meals, Costumes



Upper School News

Cindy Leahy, Coordinator

CIVIL WAR

Lonnie Barham

I'm looking forward to meeting new students in the Civil War class this fall. We will be covering such topics as the death of Stonewall Jackson, women in the war effort, camp life, Gettysburg, prisons and escapes, the war locally, plus many other topics. The class is designed as an enrichment class with no assignments but students may want to brush up on their Civil War knowledge by going through their own books or by reviewing magazines such as Civil War Times. Hopefully, it will be a rewarding experience for all. See you Sept. 17th.

AMERICANA: CULTURE AND LITERATURE

Tammy Raetz

I am looking forward to a year of historical fun with your children, as we learn about American culture through the centuries. There will be a lot of reading, but it will be FUN reading, perfect for sharing with the whole family. The first book for discussion and activities will be "The Sign of the Beaver." Please make sure your child has read or listened to this before the first day of class. We will be doing an outdoor activity on our first day, and it may be a little messy, so make sure clothing choices are appropriate. See you on September 17th!

CREATIVE WRITING - BEGINNING

SuSu Jennings

The school year will start with a review of basic writing skills. Students will learn how to create a well structured paragraph which will lead to writing a short research paper. After that, we will delve into a variety of writing genres that include personal memoirs, picture books, greeting cards, one act plays, poetry, newspaper and magazine articles, comic strips and the short story. Students should come to class prepared to write. Supplies needed for this class include a three-ring binder, a thesaurus, pencils and lots of paper. We will be writing during class time, so make sure your paper supply is always well stocked.

SOCRATIC LOGIC II

Judy Taylor

We will pick up where we left off in May. Students are to come prepared having read Chapter 10 and having done the exercises. We will also be reviewing what we learned last year as we complete this second book and move

towards the final test on it. Know the mnemonic verse and 7 rules by heart. They will follow you to the end of this school year.

OMNIBUS III

Cindy Leahy

As we enter the modern era, we begin with Ray Bradbury's dystopian novel *Fahrenheit 451*. A cautionary tale considered to be more social fiction than science fiction, Bradbury's best known novel examines the intersection of technology with government, society and the individual. And then we're off to the sublime with a thrilling trip through Milton's expanded narrative of the story of Creation, the fall from heaven and the expulsion from the Garden of Eden. While the diction and texture of Milton's voice will initially be a challenge, we'll find his expanded narrative to be true to human nature and the human condition, and an interesting contrast to Dante's concept of Satan.

OMNIBUS VI

Cindy Leahy

After a summer of heightened political participation, it should prove interesting to begin the final year of the Omnibus cycle by discussing the autobiography of "the first American", Benjamin Franklin. Next will come a bridge with the romances and parodies of medieval and renaissance English literature: the Spanish novel *Don Quixote*. A morality novel that reveals much about the rapidly changing culture in which the author lived, it's also the basis for the well known Broadway musical, *Man of La Mancha*. We'll complete our bridge to English renaissance literature with Goethe's *Faust*, widely considered to be one of the greatest works of German literature and an interesting contrast to Christopher Marlowe's groundbreaking version, which we studied last year.

PROGYMNASMATA II

Cindy Leahy

Following a quick review of the skills and concepts we have learned thus far, Progymnasmata II will begin to expand these skills through the study of persuasive writing. A brief unit on persuasive techniques, including propaganda and fallacies, will lead to the examination of encomium and invective, more commonly known as praising and blaming.

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

Janette Cascio

This year World Geography will be slightly different from last year. We'll focus on locations but also incorporate more cultural and physical

geography into our continent studies. The class will begin with basic geography information before moving on to the study of North America. Class will be held in Parker Hall with the big, round tables which are perfect for spreading out large maps!

AP US GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

Jeannine Garber

Students in American Government and Politics will be studying the Constitutional Convention and the U.S. Constitution itself during the month of September and part of October. We will be examining some of the Federalist papers and the many compromises.

WORLD HISTORY, PART III

Cathy Sciegaj

This final part of the World History course focuses on the modern world. The students will continue on in the Spielvogel text, beginning with Chapter 24. Topics to be covered for September and October are the Age of Imperialism and World War I. Students enrolled in the class should have received a syllabus via e-mail and

must have read the first week's assignment before class on September 17th. Any student who did NOT receive the syllabus should contact Mrs. Sciegaj at sciegaj@verizon.net. It will be helpful if students have a three-ring binder for this class. Weekly study guides and other handouts will be hole-punched and ready to put in the binder.

DRAMA/JR. FORENSICS

Valerie O'Keefe

Dear Forensics/Drama parents and students, Welcome back! I am looking forward to a great year. GOOD NEWS - there is no preparation needed for our class! Just bring your enthusiasm and creativity to class on the 17th.

On a building/administrative note: Please remind your students that we are in the room with the stage and puppet theatre; however we **may not** touch anything at the front of the room. I will request permission to use the stage if it is possible but we do not have it at this time. See you at Open House.



September-October 2009 Calendar

Thursday, September 10, 11:30 AM	Back-to School Picnic, Berryville Playground and Park
Monday, September 14, 7:00-8:30 PM	Open House, Calvary Baptist Church
Thursday, September 17, 8:00 AM	First Day of Classes
Thursday, September 24, 12:30 PM	Certamen Informational/Organizational Meeting
Thursday, September 24, 2:00 PM	\$5 JCL membership fees due in Susan Schearer's folder not later than 2 PM (Checks made payable to CCS JCL)
Thursday, October 1	Deadline to register for 2009 Virginia JCL Convention
Thursday, October 1 12:30-12:45 PM	First Certamen Practice
Thursday, October 8 th , 2- 3/3:30 PM	Roman Life and Culture, Theme: Rome Now and Then. ALL classes beginning at 2 PM are not held on RL&C days.
Thursday, October 8 th , 3:00/3:30 PM (1 hour)	Certamen Practice
Friday, October 9 th , 1:30 PM	Marker Miller Orchards Field Trip (Free admission)
Thursday, October 15 th	Second Semester Tuition Due in Teachers' Folders
Saturday, October 24 th	Virginia Junior Classical League Certamen Kick-Off, St. Stephen's/St. Agnes' School in Alexandria
Tuesday, October 27 th , 12:30 PM	<i>Falstaff</i> Opera Look-In (please see detailed information under the "Activities" section of the newsletter for guidelines and how to order tickets—deadline is October 1 st)



Miscellaneous

EMAIL: The CCS Participation Guidelines require that you have access to email and check it **AT LEAST** once a week, particularly the Wednesday before class day. We also highly recommend that you check it after class day in case your child(ren)'s teacher(s) need to communicate with you. All families with a filter on their email should add **ALL** of their children's teachers' emails to their approved lists and also add Beth Schloemer's email address (classicalcottageschool@comcast.net) to receive all school communications. The bi-monthly newsletter will be published the Wednesday before the first class day of the publication month and an all-school email with the current week's announcements and updates will be sent out by the Wednesday before class day on the other weeks.

Email is our only way to communicate with school families in a timely and efficient manner. Situations can change quickly and this is the only means we have to get the information to the entire school immediately.

WHITE BOARD: Read the announcements on the white board every week for important reminders.

TEACHER'S CORNER

Dear Teachers,
Welcome to a new year at CCS. Please check this "Teacher's Corner" each newsletter for any information we need to relate to you in connection with your role as a teacher at CCS.

This year, we all know there are more guidelines to adhere to at CBC. We request all teachers become familiar with the new guidelines and insure they are adhered to in their classrooms.

We anticipate another very successful year and encourage you to communicate on a regular basis. As always, we'd love to have each class reported on in each bimonthly newsletter if at all possible.

For those squeezing in some last minute vacation time before classes begin, have a wonderfully refreshing time as things won't slow down much again until June 2010!

You are appreciated for all you do to make CCS the quality school that it is! Have a great school year!

CCS YAHOO E-GROUP: Many opportunities and useful information are posted to our Yahoo group every week. The Yahoo group is to post announcements that would be better served through an e-group rather than the newsletter or all-school emails. You will not be added to this group automatically. If you would like to join, you may subscribe by sending an email to classicalcottageschool-subscribe@yahoogroups.com requesting that you be allowed to join. You will then receive an "invitation" to join the group with instructions on how to do so. This is open to current CCS families only and Judy Taylor will approve your entry into the group when you go through the subscribing process.

THREE-PANELED DIVIDERS FOR SALE: CCS has 20 three-paneled room dividers for sale that were used when the school was first started. They were originally purchased at approximately \$90 each and we will sell them for \$20 each. If you are interested in purchasing one or more, please contact Judy Taylor at judithtaylor415@yahoo.com.



CCS Activities

Liz Martin and Kim Schatz

ACTIVITIES HIGHLIGHTS: (See below, your weekly all-school emails and the website for more details and information on school activities).

Back-to-School Picnic, September 10, Berryville Playground and Park, 11:30 AM

Swimming Lessons, September 2009

Tennis Lessons, Fall 2009

Marker-Miller Orchards Field Trip, October 9th, 1:30 PM

2009-2010 Opera Schedule and Information

(PLEASE NOTE—BRYCE SKI LESSONS IN 2010: Due to a change in CCS' class day from Wednesdays to Thursdays, the popular January-February ski program at Bryce resort will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays in 2010. More details will be provided as the time gets closer.)

BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC: We will once again have a Back-to-School Picnic on September 10th, the Thursday before classes start, weather permitting. This will get you in the habit of being out on Thursdays! The picnic will begin at 11:30 AM at the Berryville Playground and Park. Please bring a bag lunch for your family and fill out a nametag upon your arrival at our welcome table. Any athletic field without a closed sign on it is available for older students to play on and they should bring any balls/equipment they will use to play on the athletic fields. This is a great way for new families to meet returning families and feel more "connected in" when classes start the next Thursday. Please join us there for great fun (for the kids) and great fellowship (for the Moms)!

SWIMMING LESSONS

Mimi Larson

Competitive Swimming classes (organized by Mimi Larson, taught by a swim coach): The following class will be offered at the indoor pool at Jim Barnett Park beginning September 14, 2009:

Competitive Swim Training for Homeschoolers:

Mon & Wed 2-2:45 PM, \$48R/\$54NR, Code #313243, Section E1.

Sessions are running in 4-week intervals. The next sign-ups are Oct 7-9, Nov 4-5, and Dec 29-30.

Registration for all classes begins on September 9, 2009. Please refer to the code and section references when signing up. This class is not included in the Fall/Winter Parks and Recreation Activities Guide that was mailed to city residents; therefore be specific when calling and registering your child(ren).

TENNIS LESSONS

Valerie O'Keefe

Possible times for starting in the fall: Wednesdays or Fridays afternoons (after lunchtime). Contact Valerie O'Keefe if interested (email vokeefe@comcast.net).

MARKER MILLER ORCHARDS FIELD TRIP

Kim Schatz

Our annual field trip to Marker Miller Orchards will be held on Friday, October 9th at 1:30 PM. There is no charge to attend; you only pay for the items you pick/buy there. Marker Miller has a great play area for children and their apple cider donuts are the best! See their website for more information, photos and directions (<http://www.markermillerorchards.com/>). Please join us for a fun time! (Please note: in case of inclement weather, this field trip will be rescheduled. Watch your email for additional information in case of a weather rescheduling.)

2009-2010 OPERA SCHEDULE/INFORMATION

Nancy Rodriguez

Greetings, opera lovers! Below is the 2009-10 schedule for the Washington National Opera performances for school groups at the Kennedy Center along with the Kennedy Center's School Group Policy. Also provided are instructions on how to buy tickets for the opera through Nancy Rodriguez (nrrodriguez@gmail.com).

Kennedy Center School Group Policy:

We ask that you bring no more than one adult for every four students attending. Please adhere to our grade level recommendations. Children under the age of three will not be admitted to the theater. Failure to follow the policy may result in non-admittance to the theater.

Often more adults will want to attend than we are permitted to bring. Please understand that we will make every effort to accommodate adults but

will not always be able to meet every request. We suggest that each adult who intends to drive arrange with other parents to carpool their students so that the 4-1 ratio is maintained. Thanks for your cooperation in this! If you purchase tickets and are not able to use them, you must make arrangements to dispose of them yourselves. Frequently other CCS families are able to use them.

Email your order to Nancy Rodriguez by Sept. 30th at nrrodriguez@gmail.com (indicate number of adult and student tickets) and place checks in her CCS folder by October 1st.

Opera Look-In: *Falstaff*

Grades 3-6

Opera House - 50 Minutes

October 27, 12:30 PM

Fee: \$7 each/student or chaperone

The opera Look-In is a sequenced program designed to explore what opera is, how an opera is put together, and how opera reflects time, culture, and creators. *Falstaff* will be presented in a 50-minute narrated performance, hosted by ABC 7's Maureen Bunyan, that includes demonstrations of musical and technical special effects as well as a performance of scenes with full staging, costumes, lights, and orchestra. Sung in Italian with English supertitles, the performance and program are accompanied by preparatory materials.

The Look-In is very popular and sells out quickly so I am requesting that you **please respond to me via email by Wednesday, September 16.** Please indicate how many adults and how many student tickets. **If you make a reservation, you must put a check in my CCS folder on Sept. 17th or you can mail your check to me since the first day of school may be hectic.** Please make the checks out to Nancy Rodriguez and mail to 23 Longstreet Ave., Round Hill, VA 20141.

The remaining operas offered this year for school groups are evening performances. **Please note these are for middle school and up.**

Student Dress Rehearsals

Grades 7-12

Opera House

Fee: \$12 ea/student or chaperone

The Student Dress Rehearsal program introduces middle and high school students to opera by giving them the opportunity to witness firsthand the final dress rehearsals of Washington National Opera's main stage productions.

***Porgy and Bess* - George Gershwin**

March 17th, Wednesday 7 PM

Sung in English with English supertitles.

The running time for this production is approximately three hours and 15 minutes including one 25-minute intermission.

George Gershwin miraculously melded classical music, popular song, jazz, blues, and spirituals into iconic American songs like "Summertime," "I Got Plenty O'Nuttin'" and "Bess, You Is My Woman Now." This quintessential American masterpiece follows the story of a crippled beggar and the headstrong woman he loves. *Porgy and Bess* is directed by Francesca Zambello and conducted by American music specialist John Mauceri.

***The Marriage of Figaro* - Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

April 21st, Wednesday 7 PM

Sung in Italian with English supertitles

The running time for this production is approximately three hours and six minutes including one 20-minute intermission.

The Figaro story continues in what is often considered Mozart's most perfect opera. After his marriage to Rosina, now the Countess Almaviva, the Count's palace is filled with a tangled web of love affairs. The pageboy Cherubino courts the Countess while the Count pursues the maidservant Susanna who is betrothed to the wily Figaro. With a nearly flawless blend of music and theatricality, *The Marriage of Figaro* is conducted by Patrick Fournillier and set in a gorgeous production originally conceived by Göran Jarvefelt and directed by Harry Silverstein.

***Hamlet* - Ambrose Thomas**

May 17th, Monday 7 PM

Sung in French with English supertitles

The running time for this production is approximately two hours and 45 minutes including one 20-minute intermission.

Ambrose Thomas' musically and dramatically virtuosic adaptation of the classic story follows Hamlet in his pursuit to avenge his father's murder. Known for Ophelia's hauntingly beautiful mad scene, "Et maintenant écoutez ma chanson," this dazzling production by Thaddeus Strassberger brings Shakespeare's famous play to life. The opera is conducted by WNO's General Director Plácido Domingo.

Please note the Kennedy Center policy above (4-1 ratio, grade level recommendations) applies to these performances, also. Email your order to Nancy by September 30th at nrrodriguez@gmail.com (indicate number of

adult and student tickets) and place checks in my CCS folder by October 1st.

Whew! That is a lot of info but I know you and your children will experience a magical night at the opera!



WHOM DO I CONTACT?

The following individuals within CCS are happy to assist you with any issue or questions you might have. This list below is an attempt at putting you in touch with “who does what” so your concerns can be quickly addressed. If the matter is not urgent, please use email to respect time and convenience factors.

- (1) Judy Taylor judithaylor415@yahoo.com: disciplinary matters, special permissions
- (2) Dana Heidelberger dheidel@hughes.net: school policies, overall mission & philosophy, special concerns
- (3) Cindy Leahy tceleahy@visuallink.com: Upper School instruction and curricula
- (4) Nancy Juday nancyjuday@earthlink.net: Grammar School instruction and curricula
- (5) Beth Schloemer classicalcottageschool@comcast.net: Registration
- (6) Helen Lawyer inchrist@visuallink.com: Bookkeeping, invoices, school fees
- (7) Carole Hoffman horsense@ltdkate.com: Scholarship applications and CARE
- (8) Lorie Ilsley homeschool4mine@comcast.net: Fund Raising: BOXTOPS4EDUCATION
- (9) Taryn Bell bell.taryn@gmail.com: Fund Raising: Martin's and Food Lion
- (10) Janette Cascio cascioj@wildblue.net: Nursery matters
- (11) Aurelie Schmid radwschmid@juno.com: Lost-and-found items
- (12) Kim Schatz kimschatz@maranatha.net: Website, newsletter; weekly emails, activities
- (13) Liz Martin ewmartin26@verizon.net: Building Liaison; activities
- (14) Nancy Rodriguez nrrodriguez@gmail.com: Opera
- (15) CCS Website www.classicalcottageschool.org: General school information

