

VILLAGE SCHOOL

Middle School for Girls

Update: May 7, 2010



Thanks to everyone who came to support the 7th grade at last Saturday's **Fun Fair**. Special thanks to all the 7th grades families who made the day so much fun, particularly **Gail Hoerr and Jennifer Vettel** who led the 7th grade in organizing and running the fair.

Special Jambalaya Events this weekend:
Jambalaya 10-Year Anniversary Celebration, Saturday May 8

Two-Mile Fun Run

The race starts at 8:00. You can register the day of the race.

AND

Jambalaya Feast, 5:30-7:00 pm at Christ Episcopal Church

\$5 for a your first bowl of Jambalaya, corn bread, lemonade and cookies

\$3 for your second bowl and all the rest.

AND

Square Dancing, 7:00-8:30 pm in Meade Hall, upstairs at Christ Episcopal Church

Come to one , come to all!



The new *Jambalaya* is in today's folder. The theme is mud.



Field Day will be Friday, May 21. The cost of the day, including lunch and swimming at ACAC is \$10/student. See the flyer in today's folder for more details.

We are also **looking for many drivers** to help transport our students to the various activities that day. Please indicate on the same form if you can help.

The school-wide assigned summer reading assignment is *The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate*. By purchasing a copy of the book for each student, we have obtained a substantial discount. The cost of the book is \$10 . The payment form for the book is included in the Field Day flyer.

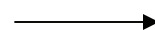


Sunny Speaks: "It takes courage to grow up and become who you really are."- E.E. Cummings

The 6th grade will have Philosophy during our next Thursday Community Lunch, May 13.

Please go to our website: www.villageschool.us to see photos of the Fun Fair and *Take Our Daughters to Work* day

More on Back



VILLAGE SCHOOL

Update: May 7, 2010

Village School Graduation is Sunday, June 6 at 5:30 pm at Ash-Lawn Highland.

All Village School families, alumnae and friends are invited.

See your invitation in today's folder

Graduation is a community event hosted by the 5th, 6th, and 7th grade families for the 8th grade families. We need your help.

Please see the flyer in today's folder with information on food assignments and other help needed.

This is one of the highlights of the Village School year. Thanks for being part of it.

Note to 5th Grade Parents:

The date of the 5th grade Drama Performance has been changed to Monday, May 24.

Village School Calendar

- May 8: *Jambalaya* Fun Run, 8:00 am
- May 8: *Jambalaya* Cook-off, 5:30-7:00 pm and Square Dance, 7:00-8:30 pm
- May 9: *Footsteps in the Fog* Reading, 1:00 pm
- May 11: 6th Grade Rivanna Canoe Trip
- May 12: Pizza Party for Rising 5th Graders, 6:00-7:30 pm
- May 16: Spring Concert and Dance Performance, 4:00 pm at the Haven and First and Market
- May 17-21: Spirit Week
- May 21: Field Day
- May 24: 5th Grade Drama Production, 5:30 pm***Rescheduled Date
- May 27: 6th Grade Drama Production, 5:30 pm
- May 27-28: 8th Grade Exams
- May 31: Memorial Day (No School)
- June 1-3: 8th Grade Trip
- June 4: Last Day of School-Noon Dismissal
- June 6: Graduation 5:30 pm Ashlawn-Highland
- September 1: First Day of School for 2010-2011

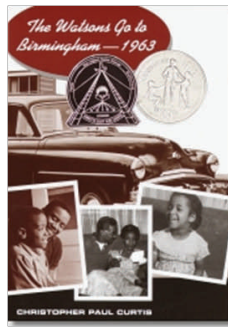


English

The **fifth graders** are currently reading Louise Erdich's *The Birchbark House*, the story of a Native American family living in Michigan in 1847. Additionally, the students are studying nouns in their grammar texts, and they will have a "quizlet" next Wednesday, May 12.

The **sixth graders** have begun reading *The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963*.

Also, the students are working with partners to write film scenarios of short stories from their *Junior Great Books* texts.



The **seventh graders** have finished reading *Born Free*, and today they turned in posters on different African animals. Next week, the students will begin an autobiography project. Each girl will read an autobiography of her choosing and write the "first chapter" of her own autobiography. **We will go to the library on Monday, so students will need their library cards.**

The **eighth graders** are currently writing poetry explication essays. These papers are due Tuesday. On Wednesday and Thursday, students will write in-class essays on Willa Cather's *My Antonia*. Students will spend their last couple of weeks leading each other in an intensive grammar review.

History

Fifth graders have just begun their preparation for reenacting the Constitutional Convention. At this time, the start of the convention is planned for Tuesday, May 25. Each student will portray an actual delegate and argue for her respective views.

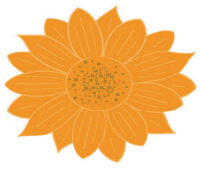
It is hard for sixth grade students to imagine the tension between the United States and the Soviet Union only a few decades ago. The Cold War seems to have vanished overnight; but, nearly fifty years of U.S. foreign policy evolved around the single objective of containing communism. The threat of nuclear attack on our soil was as real then as a terrorist attack is today. Fear seems to be a constant theme of the past sixty years.



After a brief overview of modern China, the **seventh graders** will select topics for their end-of-the-year projects. Focus will be on the cultural aspects of China, ranging from the arts to herbal medicine to gardens. I am looking forward to the topics that the students investigate.



Eighth graders have arrived in the twentieth century. With Freud and Sartre, they will experience the early foundations of this past century's intellectual thought. While in many ways the views of these thinkers are now out of vogue, they offer what all great thinkers provide: illuminating steps towards understanding the world we live in.



Latin

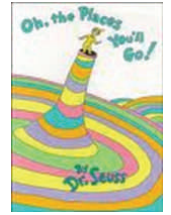
The **fifth grade** has continued through their second book, reading more stories and learning more derivatives. We are beginning to study for their next test, covering pages 38 through 53, next Friday, May 14. The students are also on the look out for Latin in everyday American life to use in their end of the year scrapbooks, due June 2.



The **sixth grade** is working on Chapter 17, reviewing verb formation, and preparing for their next test on Chapters 16-17 on May 19. We also started their end of the year class project, for which each student is researching different aspects of Roman homes. The class will put together a model during the last week of school.

The **seventh grade** began work in the *Ecce Romani II* book as we continue to review old material in preparation for our end-of-the-year review test. We also watched part of the gladiatorial classic, *Spartacus*, to enrich our conversations about slavery in the ancient world. They have a Chapter 28 quiz on Wednesday, May 12 and Chapter 29 quiz on Tuesday, May 18.

The **eighth grade** is finishing Chapter 50 in *Ecce Romani II*, which covers the last major grammar in our book. We have been studying the subjunctive mood and also reading sections of a Dr. Seuss classic, *O the Places You'll Go!* to review for the final. The students also received information for their end of the year project, due May 26.



Enrichment

The **fifth graders** have finished *A Wrinkle in Time* and are now reading **The Giver**. We also began our utopia project and the girls are busy creating their "perfect" worlds.

The **sixth graders** are finishing *Stargirl* this weekend and taking a vocabulary quiz today. We are also working to create a *Help...I don't have Enrichment Anymore!!* book.



Science

The **fifth grade** is studying weather. We identified the sun as source of energy in the atmosphere and discussed forms of energy transport. The students compared the heat absorption of soil, water, sand, leaves, calcium carbonate and pebbles. They discussed how the unequal heating of the earth creates wind.

A team of UVA fourth year engineering students have been working with the **seventh grade** all week. The girls used the *West Point Bridge Building* software to explore bridge design. Groups then designed, and built popsicles stick bridges. The strength of the bridges was tested using weights suspended from a bucket.

Sixth graders continued their study of the environment. They looked at energy flow through an ecosystem, food chains, and food webs. Next they will look at the cycles of matter including the water cycle, carbon cycle, and nitrogen cycle.



The **eighth grade** is exploring the cell. They reviewed how to use a light microscope by examining various items under low and high power. They learned the structure and function of plant and animal cell organelles. They identified the four macro molecules of living things and considered how the phospholipid bilayer of the cell membrane regulates transport.



7th & 8th Grade Math

Pre-Algebra has completed an extensive study of linear equations and inequalities. This work included a great deal of practice with graphing skills as well as the algebraic manipulation of equations. Presently, Pre-Algebra is examining the basics of trigonometry. This knowledge will then be used to measure the height of trees, buildings, and perhaps kites.

Algebra 1 has completed a large unit on factoring and the use of factoring to solve equations. This class is now beginning a study of the parabola. If time allows, students will also work with simplifying radicals.

Geometry has begun to look at trigonometry in depth. From the definitions of the primary trig ratios to their appearance in the unit circle and even the Law of Cosines, students will have a chance to explore this topic. Using both simple trig and the Law of Cosines, the class will put their knowledge to use by measuring the elevation and relative position of different items in McGuffey Park. In both Algebra and Geometry, time will be set aside for review of major topics prior the final exam.



Ms. Giacherio's Math

In **fifth grade**, the girls just finished a unit on probability and are currently applying their knowledge by creating board games. After we complete this project we will begin a unit to review the year.

The **sixth grade** students have a take-home quiz to complete by Monday on probability, including combinations and permutations. We are in the process of creating card games using probability. I'm excited for game day!



Ms. Pace's Math

Being in Ms. Pace's **fifth grade** math class this year has been a wonderful experience. We have done everything from memorizing definitions of prime and composite numbers (1 is neither by the way) to making our own board games. Over this quarter our class has had a blast learning about probability. Have you ever opened a bag of M&Ms and wondered how many blues there were? Or oranges? Or browns? Well, the 10 of us have done you a favor. We did our very own experiment to figure that out. Though Ms. Pace designed this experiment, we designed a bunch of our own too. We also made very fair board games after playing a series of games that weren't fair at all. This is just a very quick review of our math class.

By Marlena Becker

In **sixth grade** math class we have been studying positive and negative numbers. We had a test this week. We had some trouble with positive and negative numbers the first time around, but we took a break and are now doing much better! Sometimes we play games, like today we played Baseball Math. Thank you Miss Pace for another great quarter!

By Marta Rampini

