

January 2020

Parent Newsletter

CHESAPEAKE CENTER FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

605 Providence Road, Chesapeake, VA 23325
(757) 578-7046



Office Notes:

Twitter: The Twitter handle for CCSS is [@CCSSsharks](#) – Visit our page and check us out!

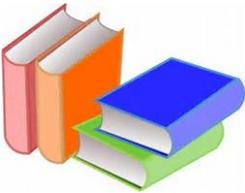
Kroger: If you shop at Kroger, please consider linking your Kroger Plus Shoppers Card to our school so we can earn cash back. Thank you.



Guidance

Please have a safe and productive New Year.

T. Winston - *Guidance Counselor*



Reading and English

The following are some skills that children should learn by the time they turn eighteen.

Domestic skills: Cook a traditional breakfast, lunch, and dinner; Wash and iron clothes; Replace a button; Physical Skills: Throw and catch balls; Swim half a mile; Ride a bicycle;

Handyman Skills: Hang a picture straight; Paint neatly; Know which tools perform what functions; Outdoor Skills: Hike with friends; Bait a hook; Plan and manage a weekend camping trip; Practical Skills: Keyboarding skills- with both hands; Set up the computer; Drive a car; Read on grade level.

May you enjoy building these skills with your child.

P. Stevens - *Reading Specialist*

In English, the **6th** and **7th** grade classes are working on reading comprehension and have been exposed to a variety of intriguing short stories and novels. **8th** grade classes are practicing grammar and writing skills in preparation for their upcoming Writing SOL in March. Please encourage students to complete their homework assignments and to read anything they find interesting. Students can work on building their vocabulary, which will help both reading and writing skills, at <http://vocabulary.com>

M. Moyer & J. Mitchell - *English*



Math

New Year's Math Fun Facts

<https://www.quickanddirtytips.com/education/math/new-years-math-fun-facts?page=1>

G. Kirk & J. Thomas - *Math*



History

6th Grade: We are continuing our survey into the American political system. We are investigating how a bill becomes a law and what the steps are between a suggestion for a law and the President signing it. We are also going to investigate the Judiciary Branch of Government and try to understand why and how the Judges of the Supreme Court have so much power. If you can help us with our investigation of the Legislative branch as we look into the effect of our congressmen (for Chesapeake) and Senators for Virginia.

7th Grade: War! We will be investigating the American Revolutionary War and looking into the reasons, battles and leaders of the American Revolution. We will be looking at why only the 13 Colonies broke away from British rule, why leaders like George Washington, Benjamin Franklin and Marquis de Lafayette were such dominant people and how the United States was born from their struggle.

8th Grade: War is a terrible thing and we will be looking at the two major wars fought on Earth (World War 1 & World War 2), and we will also be looking at the time period between the wars (rise of Consumerism, Harlem Renaissance, the Rise of Fascism in Europe and the Great Depression). It was a tumultuous time in American history, and as we survey this period, we will also use a lot of online assignments and request your assistance with students accessing the Internet.

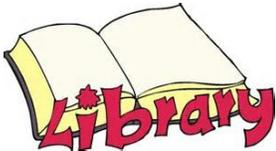
L. Tsimba & S. Zegarelli - *History*



Science

All grade levels for Science are in various stages of review preparing for Benchmark tests.

J. Doss & C. Irving – *Science*



Library News

Remind your students to read books, write a book summary/report, a and plan their costumes for the Cosplay which will occur at the end of the 1st semester.

Hammerhead, Tiger or Great White? These are the names of the 3 teams competing in our school wide reading challenge. Students have book logs which will document the amount of time spent reading and the number of pages read. Please be sure to sign the log as your student reads. The willing team will enjoy a pizza party. Each member of the winning team must read at least 50 pages in order to participate in the pizza party. Currently the Hammerheads are in the lead by about 100 pages.

M. DeCamillis – *Library Media Specialist*



Special Education

January is a month of transitions: a new year, a new semester, returns to home schools, and new CCSS placements. Any change, even a return to a familiar place may have some anxiety that accompanies it. Be a pro-active parent by anticipating your child's concerns and getting involved with them at school and at home in order to

support them and guide them to success. Here is an article with some positive tips:

<https://www.citizen-times.com/story/life/family/2019/08/05/back-school-6-tips-help-kids-move-new-school-asheville-experts/1790570001/>

M. Nottingham & J. Walski - *Special Education*



Technology

Be Digitally Aware (from StopBullying.gov):

While you may not be able to monitor all of your child's activities, there are things you can do to prevent cyberbullying and protect your child from harmful digital behavior:

- Monitor a teen's social media sites, apps, and browsing history, if you have concerns that cyberbullying may be occurring.
- Review or re-set your child's phone location and privacy settings.
- Follow or friend your teen on social media sites or have another trusted adult do so.
- Stay up-to-date on the latest apps, social media platforms, and digital slang used by children and teens.
- Know your child's user names and passwords for email and social media.
- Establish rules about appropriate digital behavior, content, and apps.

K. Lomanno - *Technology Integration Specialist*



Recognition Programs

All students are eligible for daily recognition with our MVP awards program. Each day, all students who have earned an MVP award are recognized.

Each month, one student will be chosen as the student of the month. Scorecards, behavior, and attendance will all factor into the decision.

Once a week, a drawing for a small treat/prize is held from the signed and returned scorecards.

Periodically, students will have the opportunity to win a new bicycle, which the Chesapeake Police Department generously donated. Students will have the opportunity to win one of the bicycles by participating in various contests such as essay writing or meeting certain goals such as perfect attendance, etc...

Students who have made it to the All-Star and Coach level receive special privileges such as being able to move about the building without an escort. They also earn the opportunity to participate in various social times in the cafeteria and the media center, as well as assemblies and recognition events.

Behavior Team

*When a student reaches the coach level, they are permitted to wear solid black shirts/sweatshirts without hoods.

*Make sure to sign the bottom portion of your child's scorecard each night. This helps students keep their daily percentages up, and enables them to participate in the drawing.



*Please check every day to see if your child has, and is completing, homework. They should have homework in all core classes Monday through Thursday.

***Please make sure to monitor your child's attire when they leave for school. Many students are coming without belts. Students can leave their belt in their locker at dismissal so that they will have it each school day. Also our "Professional Dress Tuesdays" should consist of collared/dress shirts, and other business attire. T-shirts are not allowed. Please refer to the CCSS student handbook and contact us if you have any questions. We thank you for your continued support!**

Quote of the Month

"The beautiful thing about learning is nobody can take it away from you." —*B.B. King*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

Dec 23-Jan 1: Winter Break

Jan 2: Schools Reopen

Jan 20: Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Holiday

Jan 21-Jan 23: Exams (If Appropriate)

Jan 23: End of Grading Period (K-12)

Jan 23: Early Release Day

Jan 24: Teacher Workday/In-Service Day