



BE AN EVERYDAY HERO

2017-18

December 17, 2017

Upcoming Calendar Dates (as of 12/17, check [LiveCalendar](#) for updates)

12/18 Holiday BOGO Free Book Fair	1/5/18 Glow Social (Middle School)
12/20 Early Dismissal (Festive Dress Down Day)	1/6/18 Prospective Family Information Session (9-10am)
12/21/17-1/2/18 NO SCHOOL (Winter Break)	1/8/18 PTC Meeting 7-8pm (Cafeteria)
1/3/18 Classes Resume	1/12/18 Quarter 2 Ends
1/3/18 Board Meeting (5:30-6:30)	1/15/18 NO SCHOOL (MLK Jr. Holiday)
1/5/18 Neon & 80s Dress Down Day (\$2 Student Council)	1/16/18 Quarter 3 Begins

Message from the Principal

Greetings, Cardinals!

As we prepare for our holiday break, I think it's important to focus on where we've been, what we've accomplished already this school year, and where we want to be at the end of the 2017-2018 academic year. Our plan is to focus on the seven qualities of highly effective schools, and you'll hear us reference these throughout 2018. The first key indicator is strong instructional leadership, and that starts with the leadership team, support staff, and teachers focused on effective teaching. Next, we will promote our high expectations that all students can learn and we can teach them. We will focus on instruction every day in every class to promote student mastery of standards. We will ensure that our school is safe and orderly by enforcing discipline that is fair, consistent, and effective. We will use data each day to determine where our students are and create Personalized Learning Plans for every student to move them toward their goals. We will maximize student engagement in the lessons to promote rigor in the classrooms. Finally, we will continue to build strong home-school relationships with you as our partners in the education of your children. (Stepping Up: Leading the Charge to Improve Our Schools. Lezotte & McKee, 2006, pgs. 279-283.)

We've got work to do, and I'm asking each of you to join us in our journey to make 2018 the best year ever! Each week, we'll focus on a different key characteristic and highlight what we're doing at the school level to make positive changes happen. I encourage each of you to continue to volunteer and assist us in our mission. We have an amazing school, and we're doing so many awesome things; I am so excited about what next year will bring for us all!

During the break, please involve your children in the reading and math activities outlined in this and previous newsletters. We want our students to come back rested, refreshed, and ready to tackle the academic challenges that they'll see in the new year; and using their reading and math skills over the break is one important way that you can help them.

I wish you all the very best this holiday season! Please be safe, have fun, relax, and enjoy your time together with family and friends. Travel safely, be happy, and spread love everywhere you go! I look forward to seeing you all back again in 2018!

Becky Draper, Ed.D.
Principal
Cardinal Charter Academy



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Scholastic Holiday Book Fair Buy One Book, Get One Book Free



The Scholastic Buy One, Get One Free Holiday Book Fair is open for one more day! It will be open on Monday, December 18th, from 8am-2pm, in room 145 (downstairs).

Students visited the fair throughout last week and made their wishlists. We are still in need of volunteers on Monday to help wrap up the fair, so please signup if you can help!

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0B4FAFAD2EA2FD0-holiday

Early Release December 20th

K-2 will dismiss at 12pm, and 3-8 will dismiss at 12:10pm.

Blue tags can enter at 11:30am.

Red tags can enter at 12pm.

Students may not be checked out at the front office after 11:30am.

Please look for information about lunch procedures from your child's teacher closer to the 20th.

Lost and Found

All non-CSUSA clothing, lunchboxes, and water bottles will be donated or thrown away every 2 weeks.

Festive Holiday Dress Down Day New money collection procedures

Students will be allowed to wear festive holiday clothes on December 20th. Students can wear a shirt representing a holiday color (blue, green, red, etc.) or an entire outfit to show off their holiday spirit! Jeans are allowed, but no ripped/torn jeans or leggings. Festive pants may also be worn. Festive shoes must be closed-toe.

The cost to participate in dress down day will be \$2 plus fees. Money will be collected using Classy and can be found [here](#). There will be **no cash** collections for dress down day. Please do not send in money to the school. All money will be collected using [Classy](#), which takes credit/debit cards or pre-paid cards only. The total cost will be \$2.42 with the credit card processing fee. Students will need to print a receipt of their payment on [Classy](#) to give to their teacher to participate. Money collected for dress down day will go toward a staff event being planned for January.

Most of you are familiar with the Classy site that we used for Fun Run donations. In order to allow our teachers to focus on teaching their students, we're hoping to save them from handling dress down day monies. To do this, the PTC is doing a trial run of using [Classy](#) to handle all donations for our festive holiday dress down day.

We appreciate all of the feedback about this system that has been sent to ccaptccomms@gmail.com so far. Thank you!!!

<https://give.classy.org/CCAPTCdressDownDay2017Dec20>



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NJHS Coin War

(National Junior Honor Society)

NJHS is doing a coin war beginning December 12th and running to the 19th. All money collected will go toward purchasing gift cards for First Responders who have to work over the holidays, away from their families, as a thank you for keeping us safe. **Their goal is a \$100 gift certificate!**

The competition will be between the houses, and the winning house will receive a free dress down day in January.

Jugs will be located in the cafeteria during arrival only. Questions? Please contact sklingler@cardinalcharter.org.

Science Fair Judges Needed

We are in need of parent volunteers to help judge the CCA Science Fair on January 10th from 2:45-6:30 pm. If you work in the science or engineering fields, please consider helping us judge the work of our amazing students.

Contact the Science Fair Coordinator, Lisa Ross lross@cardinalcharter.org, if you are able to help out.

*If your child is participating in the fair, we are asking that you not judge this year. Thank you.

Winter Break Challenge

Parents:

In an effort to maintain usage of our instructional software over the winter break, students are encouraged to participate in CCA's Winter Break Challenge. Using the following linked sheets ([K-2](#), [3-8](#)), students will work to color in the picture using the key for both reading and math programs. You can print these at home or ask your teacher to send one home with your child. There will be a prize for the class with the most participation on each grade level. Let's make sure our students are staying active in learning over break!

[K-2 Winter Break Challenge Tracking Sheet](#)

[3-8 Winter Break Challenge Tracking Sheet](#)

Reading Lists for Winter Break and Beyond

Parents:

Ms. McElreath, reading specialist, put together some [reading lists](#) for you to help encourage your students to keep reading over the break, and going forward into the new year. The 8th grade one has a selection of books on it that will give advanced readers a jump start on their HS/AP reading lists, but all the [lists](#) have a good mix of book selections.

Questions? Email Alissa McElreath at amcelreath@cardinalcharter.org.

It's Photo Time!!

Help save Ms. Mecklenburg's life! The Yearbook students are desperate for something to do!

Please [email](#) your photos from events (fun run, color run, harvest festival, City BBQ spirit night, Blaze Pizza spirit night, first grade field trip, character land parade, Didgeridoo Down Under, first day of school pics, dress down days, Wake County Animal Treats, candy round-up for the USO, etc.), sports (soccer games, basketball games, cross country meets, middle school houses kickball games, first vs. second recess soccer game), or the classrooms (in-house field trips, door decorating, art classes, holiday parties, etc.) to [Ms. Meck](#) before the students force her to listen to Brittany Spears again! (This cry for help is real!)

Please include the name of the event or the classroom teacher!

As always, a million thanks! We couldn't do Yearbook without you!



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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED (Current list can be found on the [PTC website](#))

Scholastic Holiday Buy One, Get One Free Book Fair <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4fafad2ea2fd0-holiday>

Gifts for CCA Families in Need <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090a4cabaf22abfa7-adopt>

CCA Staff Cookie Exchange (Vegan Cookies Needed) <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4fafad2ea2fd0-ccastaff1>

Open Enrollment Marketing <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4fafad2ea2fd0-open>

Carpool <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4fafad2ea2fd0-carpool1>

Cafeteria <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4fafad2ea2fd0-lunch>

Prospective Family Information Sessions

Prospective family information sessions, open enrollment, and recommitment time is here! The recommit window has already opened and will close on December 31st.

Upcoming Events:

Information Session: January 16th

Recommitment Process: November 1st - December 31st

<http://apply.cardinalcharter.org>

Open Enrollment: December 1st - February 1st

Lottery Date: Mid to late February

Open Enrollment Information Flyers Distribution

Open enrollment season is here, and we are going to offer 1 volunteer hour for each parent who will take 15 of our Open Enrollment Information Flyers to a place in the community. This can include community centers, churches, daycares, preschools, arts/dance studios, non-profit organizations centered around youth, and libraries.

To receive the volunteer hour, parents will need to provide sfarrington@cardinalcharter.org a location and address that they are delivering the flyers to. There is a maximum of 2 locations per family.

Flyers can be picked up by a parent at the front office after Wednesday, December 6th.

This opportunity is open to the first 40 parents who signup [HERE](#).

Middle School Electives

Google Survey: Below is the link to the Google Survey where students will be able to make their elective requests. Please be sure to answer all of the questions that are provided. Students are able to choose up to 6 choices for the entire semester (both quarters 3 and 4). Please be sure to put in 6 different choices with choice 1 being the most preferred and choice 6 being the #6 choice.

ONLY SUBMIT 1 ENTRY! It makes it very confusing if there are multiple entries for a student. Please keep in mind that not all courses are offered every period, so there will be times that students will not get their first choice (this is also based on CORE class placements as well). Every effort will be made to give children at least an elective in their top 3 but not a guarantee. Depending on availability, students may be placed into an elective that they did not select in their requests. Requests are not done on a first come first serve basis, but rather availability in the schedule. <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfccBFFpAKIlxWjGUelgBsP8EGtyxZLuUS4ByXAQoEylvO9gA/viewform?c=0&w=1>

The Google Survey will close at **5pm Friday, December 22nd**. No requests will be taken after this date and if your child did not request, they will be placed based on availability.



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K-5 Elementary Music

If you ordered a recorder through the school, the order has been placed and your child will receive their recorder when they return the first week of January. Recorders will be distributed during their music class.

If you did not have the opportunity to order your child a recorder through school, please purchase a Soprano Recorder for your child over the break. All fourth grade students are required to have a recorder for music class when they return from break, along with a folder and pencil.

You can purchase a recorder at a local music store or order one online from West Music: www.westmusic.com

Harmony Traditional Style, Blue Translucent, 2-Piece Soprano Recorder, **Item #400837**

Thank you,
Ms. Volpe

Thank you to everyone who came out to the PTC's movie night! The students had a wonderful time and hopefully the parents enjoyed a couple hours without the kids! Thanks to the parent volunteers and students from NJHS, too.

We will have another movie night in the spring, so be on the lookout for more information about that in the coming months.





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Basketball Game Schedule

Come support CCA basketball!

Home games are played in the CCA gym.

Girls play at 4:15pm. Boys play at 5:15pm.

Tickets sold at the door:

\$2 for students, \$4 for adults.

12/18/17	Healthy Start Academy
1/4/18	Pre-Eminent
1/9/18	RTCA
1/11/18	Word of God
1/12/18	KIPP
1/16/18	Cary Academy
1/18/18	@ Sallie B. Howard
1/23/18	Durham Academy
1/25/18	@ Kestrel Heights (4:30/5:30)
1/29/18	Playoff Tournament Begins (TBD)
2/3/18	Championship Game

Sallie B. Howard: 1004 Herring Avenue, Wilson
Kestrel Heights: 4900 Prospectus Dr., Durham 27713

Yearbook Ordering Information

The deadline for ordering yearbooks is March 20, 2018. This is a firm deadline and will not be extended. Parents and staff have a full three-and-a-half months to order the yearbooks.

The website for ordering is
<http://ybpay.lifetouch.com/>

The elementary (K-5) yearbook ID code is:
13332718

The middle school (6-8) yearbook ID code is:
13332818

There are multiple options/add-ons available for each yearbook. Take the time now to review all that's available.

Ms. Echstenkamper's homeroom used a Secret Santa gift exchange as an opportunity to build community and get to know one another better!



Basketball Game Attendance

Middle school students may stay after school on days that we have home games to watch the game without parental attendance.

When they stay, they must stay in homeroom until the announcement is made that dismissal is over and they can then go immediately to the gym.

If students are not picked up by the time the game is over, then there is a \$1/minute/child charge.

Athletic Team Sponsorships

A new level has been added to available sponsorships—Bronze Star (\$150). Please view the [sponsorship letter](#) for more information, and pass it along to any businesses you think might be willing to sponsor CCA's athletic teams.

Basketball Concessions Sign-Up

Multiple volunteers are needed for all home games.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4fafad2ea2fd0-20172018>