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 Mrs. Valella mvalella@csmh.org

Important Dates

Holiday Break - No School	December 21 - January 1
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End of 1st Semester	January 15

General Middle School Information



Christmas Wishes from the Staff

During this holiday season, we hope that you all have a safe and relaxing break. We look forward to facing new challenges together in the New Year!

Science Camp Fundraiser

Attention 7th grade parents! We will be conducting a fundraiser for Science Camp this year, a See's Candy fundraiser. Students will have a chance to sign up for times to sell candy outside of local stores/coffee shops on weekends in late Jan./early February (tentatively planned for the weekends of 1/23, 1/30 and 2/6), w/ the amount of \$\$ raised going towards the volunteers' science camp expenses. I'm also looking for several other adults to share the set-up responsibilities and to help oversee sales particularly for the mornings/early afternoons on the weekends of the sale. Please ask any interested parents to contact me directly at my email address marji_mcmillan@yahoo.com

This page last updated on 12/20/2009 at 4:00 pm.

E-Waste Collection and Recycling

E-Waste Fundraiser Coming Soon!

It will be on Jan. 30th 9:00 - 4:00 in Morgan Hill Presbyterian Church's parking lot on DeWitt and Dunne!

We hope to get businesses involved in our recycling event. Please talk to your employer to see if they are willing to recycle their excess hardware with us! We make the most off of computer monitors, computers, and televisions. (See list on flyer for all that is accepted). Keep us in mind after Christmas. Don't throw away that old electronic equipment, but save it for our recycling event! See the E-Waste flyer below for more detailed information. We have a few spots left for volunteers to help with organization now and to help at the site on the day of the event. Last chance for D.C. hours!

Contact Peggy Schnorr at schnorr@ieee.org if you can help!

Fundraising Hours Reporting

Please send all information regarding the number of hours spent on fundraising to Donna Sooter at d.sooter@sooterconsulting.com.

Jamba Card Available

In order to expedite our Jamba Sales and to make it easier for you to pay (rather than digging for change in your pocket), we are now selling Jamba Cards! These cards can be used at any Jamba sale through March 15. See the flyer below for more info.

Yearbook on Sale Now!

The CSMH Yearbook for the 2009-2010 school year is now on sale. Check out the order form at the bottom of this page for more info.

Subpages (8): [Cheetah Athletics](#) [Electives](#) [High School Information: December 28, 2009](#) [History](#) [Language Arts](#) [Mathematics](#) [Middle School Science Update: December 28, 2009](#) [Spanish](#)

Attachments (4)

- E-Waste Volunteer Jobs.pdf - on Dec 9, 2009 10:50 AM by David Cross (version 1)
24k [View](#) [Download](#)
- E-waste_flyer_MorganHill.pdf - on Dec 20, 2009 4:22 PM by David Cross (version 1)
150k [View](#) [Download](#)
- Jamba card flyer.pdf - on Nov 9, 2009 10:02 AM by David Cross (version 1)
356k [View](#) [Download](#)
- Yearbook.pdf - on Oct 10, 2009 10:14 AM by David Cross (version 1)
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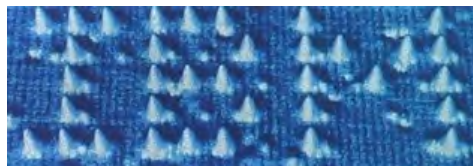
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Middle School Science Update: December 28, 2009

Middle School Science meets 2-3 times each week for 100 minutes per class. This class alternates with Language Arts. These are the only two Middle School classes sharing time in a block schedule.

MS Science is taught to the CA State Standards. You can find a list and explanation of the concepts we cover here: <<http://www.cde.ca.gov/BE/ST/SS/documents/sciencestd.pdf>>. Select the appropriate grade level in the sidebar on the left side of the screen. -P. Anex



"BM" written in Xenon atoms with an atomic force microscope.

Eighth Grade Science

In the last weeks before the vacation, students enjoyed learning about Static Electricity. They removed some electrons from their hair, leaving positively charged atoms that repelled one another and caused their hair to stand on end. They piled extra electrons on balloons and used them to attract salt crystals, strips of paper, and a stream of water. They also took an introductory quiz on which a fabulous 47 students earned scores of "C and above." Well done!

Students continued their electron manipulation as they induced a positive charge on the White Board. They modeled what had happened at the sub-atomic level with girls taking the role of protons, and boys taking the role of electrons. They also watched a Bill Nye movie, took notes, filled in a Study Guide, and took another quiz - a 35 point challenge with questions on basic atomic structure and theory, the early philosophers and scientists, and static electricity. An excellent 42 students earned scores of "C and above" on this quiz. Well done! Congratulations to high scorers Kevin C, Trenton C, Blakeney F, Ben H, Brandon L, Renee R, Garrett T, Donovan L, Michael C. Jackson D, Cody H, Aneesa I, Jack A, and especially Alex S and Daniel S, who earned scores of "A+."

Students will begin their Element Project after the holiday. If they wish to get an early start on their research, their assignment is posted on SnapGrades, and reference links and research questions are posted as attachments to this newsletter (below). Remember, all sources must be cited, and web pages from which information is taken are to be printed out and attached to the research data.

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Seventh Grade Science

In the last weeks before the vacation, students finished keying out conifer branches and strolled out to the front of campus to identify the evergreens. Congratulations to Rachael, Crystal, and any other students who correctly identified our most famous resident conifer, the giant sequoia that bravely soldiers on in this most inhospitable of sequoia habitats. We honored his fortitude and stamina, and are grateful to be able to observe this rare specimen right here in Morgan Hill.

Learn more about Giant Sequoias at:
<http://users.telenet.be/sequoiadendron/en/giantsequoia.html>



users.telenet.be/.../en/giantsequoia.html

Students cleaned and organized binders and lockers for the binder and locker inspections. They are encouraged to be fully prepared at all times. This way they can take full and undistracted advantage of their educational opportunities - and earn an easy 5 points with every binder inspection in science!

Students ALSO worked in groups to create a chart comparing and contrasting the vertebrates and invertebrates we have been studying. After the holiday, they will fill in the bird section of their chart. They will reconnect chart information to their study of classification as they move into the owl pellet project

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and a study of bones, skeletons, and other body systems.

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The organizer of this project, Ms. McMillan, is looking for several adults to share set-up responsibilities and help oversee sales, particularly on the mornings and early afternoons of the weekends of the sale.

Interested parents should contact Ms. McMillan directly at marji_mcmillan@yahoo.com



Find Chemistry Christmas carols here:
<http://www3.delta.edu/slime/chemsongs.html>

UPCOMING HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS:

**SHADOWING AT MONTE VISTA & ST. FRANCIS
(WATSONVILLE) BEGINS JANUARY 12**
OAKWOOD OPEN HOUSE JANUARY 30
MONTE VISTA OPEN HOUSE FEBRUARY 21

Find more information on the
High School Information page
of this newsletter.

SciCamp Payment II Was Due 11/24

Our second Science Camp payment of \$100 was due by November 24.

If your family would like to apply for scholarship money for Science Camp, we have to be able to show need and that you made an effort to earn some of the cost of the program. Please come to the office as soon as possible to begin filling out the qualifying forms as the scholarship deadline will be fast upon us. Thank you.

Here is that picture of where we are going!
(Rodeo Beach & Headlands Institute, Marin Headlands, CA)



Download the attachment "Headlands 2009-10" (below) to review the details of our Science Camp adventure and to view photos of former CSMH students participating in this program. If you have questions or concerns, please contact:

P. Anex at <trecia_c@hotmail.com>

HelpMeStudy Websites

HelpMeStudy websites are and will be posted on SnapGrades for both 7th and 8th grade science. Use of these websites is not required. They are primarily for students who need to readdress concepts they did not learn, reinforce their understanding, or test their comprehension. No student is expected to use all of the websites. Students are encouraged to read the brief description posted next to each URL and use only those sites that meet their needs.

Science Binder Check Suggestions

As we are now in the second trimester, binder checks in science now earn "all or nothing" scores. BE READY WITH A BLUE OR BLACK PEN, A COLORED PEN, A SHARP PENCIL, A HIGHLIGHTER, MORE THAN 10 PIECES OF LINED PAPER, A PLANNER, A SCIENCE SECTION IN YOUR RESOURCE BINDER, & YOUR MEMORY STICK.

Bring these REQUIRED ITEMS to class and be ORGANIZED every day so you will always be ready to earn those 5 Binder Check points!





*Thank you for supporting
the CSMH Middle School Science program
and your student's effort to learn science.-P. Anex*

Attachments (4)

Headlands 2009-10.doc - on Oct 30, 2009 11:52 AM by trecia_a@yahoo.com (version 3 / [earlier versions](#))
136k [Download](#)

chem element project resources.doc - on Dec 16, 2009 3:09 PM by trecia_a@yahoo.com (version 1)
79k [Download](#)

chem element research questions.doc - on Dec 17, 2009 9:31 AM by trecia_a@yahoo.com (version 1)
28k [Download](#)

headlands registration form.pdf - on Aug 28, 2009 3:29 PM by trecia_a@yahoo.com (version 1)
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Mathematics

ALL EARNSHAW'S CLASSES:

Great basic skills practice and games websites for over break:

**Go to: www.multiplication.com
 and
www.mathplayground.com**

No homework will be assigned over break.

When we return from break:
 Pre-Algebra students will be going on into Chapter 6 (Percents).
 Algebra students will spend a couple days reviewing graphing, and then move into Chapter 6 (Systems of Equations).

Thanks and as always, keep in touch!
 Ms. Earnshaw

Advanced Algebra

We just finished the unit on factoring. We will be using factoring in the next unit - quadratics. We are wrapping up the end of the trimester tomorrow with a "makeup" test that can replace any lower grade on any test so far this year. Also, starting Monday - clean slate! Grading will start fresh with the new trimester.

Another reminder: my assignments are posted on eBoard.com. This site is updated daily, usually in the morning.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns at mvalella@csmh.org.

Ms Valella



Attachments (1)

TK20_ParentLetter.doc - on Dec 10, 2009 5:08 PM by Erin Earnshaw (version 1)
 37k [Download](#)



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History

Medieval History

Beginning on January 4th, 7th graders will begin learning about the life of Muhammad and the Islamic Religion. Our processing assignment for Chapter 8 will be the creation of a short biography of Muhammad. I will pass this out before we have finished the reading notes and give the students at least one day in class to work on this assignment. It is worth 50 points.

Most students did not finish Geography Challenge 2 before class ended on Friday. I collected the students work and will give them some time in class as well as an evening to complete the assignment, but it will be due on January 5th.



The Hagia Sophia in Istanbul (Constantinople)

After our Winter break, we will begin learning about the Middle East, Muhammad and the Islamic religion.

Homework Alert!

Homework and a Test has been assigned as follows:

- Geography Challenge 2 due on 1/5

Important Links

I have several web pages that parents and students will find helpful:

- www.snapgrades.net - I post all grades and assignments on snapgrades. I recommend you check regularly for assignments and for missing or poorly done assignments.
- csmhhistory.pbworks.com - Home page for the various history projects we will be conducting on line this year.
- www.digitaldave.us/CSMH/ - I try to put an electronic copy of all handouts for my classes on these pages. There are separate pages for 7th grade history, 8th grade history, technology and the newsletter. Although the newsletter will be on the web, I plan on creating a pdf copy

United States History

Students performed fairly well on our test covering Chapters 8 and 9 - the Constitutional Convention and the Constitution itself. Beginning in January, we will start learning about the Bill of Rights. After gathering some basic information through our reading notes, students will team up to create a podcast about a specific right guaranteed by this important document.



Homework Alert!

I have not yet figured out due dates for upcoming homework. As soon as I do, I will post it here, on SnapGrades and in Student's Planners.

Important Note

I have had a number of students arrive at class unprepared of late - usually they don't have their text book, Interactive Notebook or pencils and pens. As a result, I will be conducting "spot checks" for these items that will be entered into Snapgrades. Please encourage your student to arrive at class prepared to learn.

each week to be archived here.

- www.digitaldave.us - I have samples of student work on these pages and photos of our Washington DC Trips.

This page was last updated on 12/20/09 at 5:00 pm.

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Language Arts

Eighth Grade

Take rest; a field that has rested gives a bountiful crop. ~Ovid

We had a great turn-out for the presentation on Wednesday night. Thirty-eight students and their parents listened as Magda Brown shared her incredible story. It was a rare opportunity and I think the students were moved. Thank you for taking the time out of your hectic December schedules to make it. I am sure many of them will remember it for years.

Thank You

I'd like to express my sincere gratitude to the Emeth Congregation and specifically to Mr. Toch for making the Charter students so welcome at their synogogue.

Holiday Homework

Enjoy your family. Eat well. Rest. Play. Come ready to read and write in January.

A Gift?

If your student has finished with either The Outsiders or The Boy In the Striped Pajamas and you no longer want your copy, please consider donating it to our middle school. That way, in the future, we could have a class set of these novels. If you are like me and become attached to your books, by all means do not feel obligated, but I have been told that there are people out there who do not compulsively keep every book they read. If you are likely to just donate it elsewhere, please send it our way. Thanks.

Seventh Grade

"Rest when you're weary. Refresh and renew yourself, your body, your mind, your spirit. Then get back to work."

~ Ralph Marston

Seventh graders have turned in their essays! I am looking forward to reading them.

A Gift?

If your student has finished with The Outsiders and you no longer want your copy, please consider donating it to our middle school. That way, in the future, we could have a class set of this novel. If you are like me and become attached to your books, by all means do not feel obligated, but I have been told that there are people out there who do not compulsively keep every book they read. If you are likely to just donate it elsewhere, please send it our way. Thanks.

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Spanish

This page was last updated on Friday, Dec. 18 at 1:50 PM

Spanish I/II

Test Grades

As you know, there was test this past week. You have already seen the grade you received for the first section (the first half that was taken on Wednesday). The second section and total test grade will be up on Snapgrades by the end of the weekend.

Also, there will be a chance to re-take the second section of the test on Friday of the week we return (1-8-10), if you scored less than a C- (see my re-take policy below if you have any questions).

Homework

No homework was assigned over Christmas vacation. I apologize for this great convenience on your part :) Seriously though, have a great time off and be safe!

Policy Reminder

Just a reminder on my policies for quiz, test and Bienvenidos re-takes as well as late homework information:

Quiz & Test Re-take Policy-

If a student scores lower than a C-, he or she may take a re-take the following Friday after the original quiz or test. However, students may only score a maximum of 80% (B-) on the quiz or test re-take, regardless of their second score. The idea is to encourage each student to do his or her best on the original assessment. The first quiz re-take is this Friday right after lunch (during recess). Re-take are held on Fridays, immediately after lunch, unless otherwise notified.

Bienvenidos Policy-

You may correct any Bienvenidos worksheet (from the current trimester) for up to 8 points total credit. In other words, I'm practically begging you to get an A or B on this very easy assignment. Please attach your old Bienvenidos to the new one and submit.

Late Homework Policy-

Turned in same day: 90% credit given
Turned in next day: 75% credit given



Past Notes of Import

Whenever you feel you need help in Spanish, please come see me. Don't let it build up until it becomes absolutely overwhelming or until the end of the next trimester, when all of a sudden the world is going to end if you don't immediately raise your grade. Remember that if you are feeling this way, it is your responsibility to come ask me.

Parents: if you would still like to volunteer time either inside or outside my classroom, please email me. You needn't be fluent or even that good at speaking Spanish to volunteer.

Online translators are banned from use. This is for at least two primary reasons:

- 1) they are not accurate
- 2) they do not help you learn Spanish

Please refrain from using them. And if you need more incentive for keeping your distance, know that I can tell when you use them.

Booksmart has the dictionaries I mentioned several weeks ago. If/when more dictionaries are needed, Booksmart will re-order. Again, this is not required, but **I highly recommend it**. The price is right at \$4. Even if you already have a dictionary, I highly recommend getting this one as well to keep in your binders (it's hole punched and has a nice reference guide in the back).

Also available at Booksmart are four laminated and hole-punched reference guides. There is one for Conversation, Grammar, Vocabulary, and Verbs. The Conversation and Grammar editions are being sold for \$4.95 each. Vocabulary and Verbs are \$5.95 each. Again, if/when more reference guides are needed, Booksmart will re-order.

Turned in two days late through end of semester: 50% credit given

Helpful Hints

Great online resource, including quick dictionary look-up and verb conjugation checker:
wordreference.com

Some basic reminders and suggestions for my class, as we continue through the second trimester-

- 1) study vocabulary and worksheets 5-10 mins. per night (do not cram!)
- 2) come to class prepared, with all needed supplies (too many of you continue to ask me if you can go to your locker and this is very frustrating)
- 3) no backpacks are allowed in the classrooms (this is a middle school rule)
- 4) no food in my class (I continue to catch students eating, yet the habit persists)
- 5) the easiest way to raise your grade is by doing well on Bienvenidos (easy A!) and quizzes (since you're studying a little each night anyway)
- 6) re-takes are always available for quizzes and Bienvenidos (take advantage of this!)

A New System

A new system has been implemented regarding absences and general misplacing of things passed out during class. A special binder, placed near the front door in my room, contains all worksheets, homework assignments, and anything else I've passed out throughout the trimester. Also, a second system will be implemented upon return from Christmas Break . This system involving missing assignments and all other queries of that nature, entails students filling out a card, placing it in a special box (also near the front door in my room), and awaiting my quick response to their question. My hope is that these two systems will drastically help not only students and parents, but also make expedite the process of identifying and tackling problems arising in this area in the future. Also, more responsibility will be placed on students, as a result... something I think we can all agree on.

Con gratitud,
Sr. Ramazzina



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Electives

Technology (Cross, 12/9)

Students are STILL working on their web sites on a variety of history topics. 8th graders are focused on the Declaration, Constitution, Revolution, Constitutional Convention or Bill of Rights. 7th graders are focusing on the Hundred Years War, Knights, Catholic Church, Robin Hood, Joan of Arc, Medieval Life, Muhammad, Islam or the Crusades. Students need to create 3 pages for their web site, with images and information on each one. They need to have one instance of a "roll-over" photo page within their site. They are putting the final touches on this project which should be finished early next week. We will then do a very short session on Adobe Flash!

Lessons for Life (11/5)

The students have been working hard this last month on their Life Lessons Informative Speech. This week they watched the movie "The Great Debaters." The students saw a black debate team from the 1930s in Texas struggle with racial prejudices and overcoming huge obstacles to reach their dreams. Not only did the students get inspirations for their speeches next week, they all want to participate in a debate! That might be something I can arrange in the Spring.

The students have been assigned their speech day which will be either Monday, Nov. 9th or Tuesday, Nov. 10th. I am looking forward to hearing all these amazing speeches!

Yearbook (Funke 10/9)

Our cover is complete. Coming next week a sneak peak at the 2009-2010 yearbook. Staff is hard at work, designing pages, taking pictures and planning the layout for a fabulous book. We spend a lot of time in the beginning talking about design and looking at what makes a good design and how to take and choose good photographs. Student surveys went out last week and soon we will be importing pictures onto our portrait pages. Have your students show you what they've been working on. They can access the program from home.

Nutrition (Storlie, 12/10)

We just finished up our lesson on Food Safety and Sanitation. The students should be pointing out different situations that contribute to Food Borne Illnesses. This next week students are working on their last big project in Nutrition. It is to write a book covering various topics that we have covered in class. It is so much fun to see the variety of creative ideas they have come up with.

Life Skills (Anex, 12/28)

In this section of Life Skills, students will help to direct the course of the class based on their own needs and interests as maturing adolescents. Topics they will definitely cover include social and academic survival skills, drug and alcohol abuse, gang avoidance, and human reproduction.

In the last weeks before the vacation, students continued their unit on drug and alcohol use and abuse. They were presented with a number of drug and alcohol "Situations" and asked to ponder relevant practical and ethical considerations in discussion and written responses. They were also asked to discuss one Situation with parents. Many thanks to those parents who took the time to enjoy thoughtful conversations with their student in response to this assignment!

Students made origami holiday ornaments - a productive and entertaining life skill taught by Justin Lyle. Thank you, Justin!

Each student also wrote his or her own obituary - the words someone could have said about the student were his or her life to have ended this month. In January, each student will write a "far in the future" obituary - looking "back" on a life well lived.

When we return from the holidays, students will bring home a permission form requesting that they be allowed to participate in the unit on Relationships that involves a discussion of human reproduction. Further details will be forthcoming at that time.

There also will be one last graded "check in" of Hero Project progress in January. As the semester is rapidly drawing to a close, it is important that students work diligently to fulfill their commitment to this project. Students should have statements in evidence of their participation signed by a supervising adult and entered in their project log book with a description of their accomplishment.

As part of this project, Kyle has organized a food drive and also goes to Watsonville to work for Second Harvest Food Bank. Marcus, Justin, and Aleksander continue to clean pens, socialize animals, man the gift shop, and promote adoptions for Town Cats. Rosemary, Crystal, and now Logan tutor and provide support to students at El Toro Youth Center. Jasmine, Erin, and now Lauren and Jeni help students with their reading at the Bridge Project. Shea and Trenton are volunteering in classrooms in other schools on our Minimum

Iron Chef (Storlie, 12/10)

One word for this week-- BACON!! Wow- the kids did some great dishes including the secret ingredient; bacon. Bacon Burgers, Baked Potato Soup, Pasta dishes and even bacon wrapped appetizers. The staff in the office always love the days that Iron Chef is presenting their recipes. We bring them samples to get feedback on the dishes. The Charter School campus smelled wonderful this week.

Academic Management (Mosher, 12/9)

The students just completed a "Time of Your Life" look at how many hours in each day are spent in various activities. It was interesting to see that with most students spending 30% of their time sleeping and 30% at school, they are left with 40% "free time". The average student in my class spends of that "free time" 10% on homework which leaves another 30% for choice time. I think some students were surprised at how much time they spend at video games, TV, and cell phone texting. Other students were surprised by how much time is spent traveling in the car each day. We talked about that if they aren't getting the grades they want, some of that extra 30% of time should be added to their homework time. It was also pointed out that all the time in the car could be time spent studying note cards, looking over quiz/test information, and reading.

Wednesdays. Riley is a volunteer assistant to a veterinarian. Samantha has begun a project in defense of mountain lions and seeks to have Morgan Hill adopt a good policy for dealing with these animals.

These students are having some great experiences, learning new skills, providing valuable public service, and doing a lot to advance the positive reputation of young people in our community!

I profoundly respect the energetic, intelligent, enthusiastic effort they are making, as well as their diligence and responsibility. I greatly appreciate the effort of parents to support their student in this project. Well done! Keep up the good work!



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Cheetah Athletics

Cheetah Athletics Update

CHEETAH PRIDE!!



It's ALL about the team!

**All Team Jerseys are due on Monday, January 4th!!
 There is a \$45.00 replacement fee!**

Winter 2010 Season
 Boy's Basketball and Girl's Soccer Teams are forming Now!

Team Coaches Needed!!!

Boy's 8th grade Basketball, Boy's 7th Grade Basketball

Contact Mrs. Hagiperos @ 463-7902

New Academic Requirement

Because academic performance is the foundation to athletic achievement, players will be placed on team rosters based upon their academic achievement in the classroom. Athletes with a 2.5 GPA or higher will receive priority play time. All Athletes must maintain a 2.0 GPA to be considered for participation in our Athletic Program. Students must demonstrate that they can achieve this academic goal throughout the season. Grades will be checked each week to ensure each athlete's eligibility.

Practice week is January 11th-15th
 League Games Begin January 19th

Parent Meeting TBA

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Important Dates

Holiday Break - No School	December 21 - January 1
Back to School	January 4
Spirit Day - CSMH Wear	January 8
Minimum Day - PM	January 13
End of 1st Semester	January 15

2009 Winter Season Wrap up

Girl' Basketball

Our Cheetah girl's Basketball team will finish up their Second place season with the annual St. Catherines Cougar Classic Tournament on January 14, 15 and 16th. Our 8th grade girls showed a lot of talent led by the court skills of Center Grace Hargadon and Point Guards Toma Claire and Mariah Fuentes. Mikayla Locsin, Hannah Larner, Michelle Steffani, Camille De Rome, and Mackenzie Hauge played aggressively inside the paint, while guards Nicole Chun and Blakeney Fairey played great defensively. A huge thank you to our coaches, Eddie Steffani and Joe Locsin.

The Cheetah girl's 7th grade team played four games to finish up their small season. Thank you to our Alumni Coach Tim Smedlund for all of his efforts of time and travel. YOU Rock.

Cheetah Boy's Soccer

Our Cheetah boy's soccer team tied for second with Oakwood with a 4-0-2 with two ties! Our talented 8th grade anchored a team roster of 25! A big thank you to Christine Swanbeck and Martha Baughman for coaching this talented team. 8th graders **Trenton Cisewski, Tristan Baughman, Ben Hughes, Mitch Mayes, Brandon Busher led the offensive attack, while Zach Huges, Kealan Baughman, Matt Barker, Trenton Reynolds and Daniel Sabsay covered the mid-field. John Wilson, Joey Sutter, Aex Ochoa, Donovan Loperena and Jackson Davis sealed up the defense for goalies, Brandon Lefore, Tyler Rowland and Luke Northcott! A big thank you to the city of Morgan Hill for allowing us to host all of our home games at the Morgan Hill Soccer Complex!**

Middle School PE

Students will be submitting their 2010 Fitness goals and resolutions in preparation for the California Fitness Test and Presidential Fitness Challenge coming in February. Give this some thought over the break. We will also begin our Basketball unit!

Christmas Break Homework:
At least 60 minutes of activity every day!!!

Suggestions: Walk the dog (15 minutes), Ride your bike (15 minutes) take an exercise class (30 minutes). It's ALL Good!

Thank you to all of the Charter families for your generosity this Christmas! We will be thinking of all of you during this vacation time!

On Sale Now while supplies last

PE Hoodie, PE logo shorts, PE logo sweat pants and PE Logo Cinch Bags!!



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[General Middle School Information](#) >

High School Information: December 28, 2009

Interested in attending a private high school?

IT IS NOW TIME TO:

7. Write a letter requesting a Letter of Recommendation. Write one on your computer. Include information about your accomplishments and goals. Fill in addressee information, and send - WITH A STAMPED ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO THE SCHOOL TO WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING - to each person from whom you are requesting a letter.

8. Submit your requests for transcripts to Nancy.

9. Submit your request for a teacher evaluation to each teacher from whom you would like to receive one. Teachers should be asked to give the form to the office for inclusion in the packet that will be sent to the school to which you are applying.

NOTE: The sooner you do these things, the more attention your requests are given. Better letters and recommendations are usually written for those whose applications are first received, before the writer is burdened by many requests.

Here is what you already should have done:

1. Check out the **website** of the school that interests you. Take a look at the online school newsletter, Student Handbook, virtual campus tour, and other features to help you know what the school is like.

2. Read over the Registration information on the website and download or request the **Registration Packet**.

3. If you are interested in more than one Catholic HS, determine if your favorite school prefers to have you take the **admission test** there. If your favorite school cares, sign up to take the test there. (Your test scores will be sent to all the Catholic schools to which you apply.)

4. Submit the initial page(s) of the Registration Packet and the fee required for registration, reserving a test date for the admission test. Do NOT sign up for the first Saturday, the one that comes right after the holidays.

5. Start brainstorming **two lists** with your parents:

UPCOMING HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS:

SHADOWING AT MONTE VISTA & ST. FRANCIS (WATSONVILLE) BEGINS JANUARY 12
OAKWOOD OPEN HOUSE JANUARY 30
MONTE VISTA OPEN HOUSE FEBRUARY 21

Bellarmino Shadow Days ended 12/10

SHADOWING at a private high school?

Please sign up to shadow on **CSMH MINIMUM DAY WEDNESDAYS**, or days that CSMH is **NOT** in session.

Thank you.

Oakwood

(co-educational, Morgan Hill)

<http://www.oakwoodweb.org>

Open House: January 30, 10 AM - Noon

Shadow Days: Contact them to schedule

Contact: Brenda Black at 408-782-7177 x104

Scholarship Info: See Nancy DePalma in the CSMH Office

Monte Vista Christian School

(coeducational, Watsonville, with a bus to Morgan Hill)

<http://www.mvcs.org/217946.ihtml>

Open House: February 21.

Shadowing: Tues-Wed, 01/12 through 03/31. See

website for details: <http://www.mvcs.org/236205.ihtml>



Notre Dame

(all-girls, Catholic, San Jose)

<http://www.ndsj.org/admissions/dates.html>

Open House: Was Oct. 24

Shadow Days: through Jan 27, but fully booked as of 10/30

Contact: jbarganski@ndsj.org

a. People we know who would write a useful **Letter of Recommendation** for me, and

b. **Things I have done** that make me a good candidate for admission [ex: involvement in my church community, sports, music lessons, philanthropic activities, Scouts, 4-H, travel, foreign language, diverse cultural experience(s), educational experiences, involvement in my school community, Conflict Resolution team, Student Council, personal accomplishments (ex: hiked the Pacific Rim trail, Black Belt, starting quarterback, published poet, active in a political party or campaign, volunteer at Coe, altar-server, can hunt, field dress, and cook venison, Hero Project, etc.)]

6. Sign up to shadow at the schools that interest you. **Please pre-register to shadow on CSMH MINIMUM DAY WEDNESDAYS, or days that CSMH is NOT in session.**

Private High Schools

The Zacchaeus Program

St. Lawrence Academy is home to **The Zacchaeus Program, a college preparatory program designed for high functioning students with documented learning disabilities.** Recognizing that stu-



dents with learning disabilities are often excluded from parochial schools, the Zacchaeus Program helps students to understand and address their special learning needs in order to fulfill their academic, physical, artistic, social and emotional

potential. It employs a faculty team approach, small classes, multi-sensory methods that include technological academic accommodations, and individual attention. Coursework within the Zacchaeus Program meets the University of California A-G requirements.

Students in the Zacchaeus Program have some sheltered courses where they are in smaller classes only with other Zacchaeus students. Zacchaeus courses are offered for four years in English, three years in Social Science, and two years in Science. The rest of the day Zacchaeus students are mainstreamed with the rest of the student body. Graduating students meet all of the requirements to attend a four-year college or university.

Bellarmino College Preparatory

(all-boys, Catholic, San Jose)

http://www.bcp.org/about_us/index.aspx

Open House: Was Oct. 25

Shadow Days: Tues-Wed-Thurs through Dec. 10.

St. Francis High School

(coeducational, Catholic, Mountain View)

<http://www.sfhs.com/>

Open House: Was Nov. 1

Shadow Program:

http://www.sfhs.com/admissions/visit_shadow.aspx

Valley Christian High School

(coeducational, Christian, South San Jose)

<http://www.vcs.net/high-school/index.aspx>

Open House: Was Nov. 7

Shadowing:

<http://www.vcs.net/admissions/high-school/index.aspx>

Presentation High School

(all-girls, Catholic, San Jose)

<http://www.pres-net.com/admissions/index.html>

Open House: Was Nov. 8

Shadow Days: www.pres-net.com/admissions/ShadowRequest-Form.htm

St. Lawrence Academy

(coeducational, Catholic, Santa Clara)

<http://saintlawrenceacademy.com/>

Open House: Was Nov. 15

Shadowing: Tues-Thurs, Oct-Feb

St. Francis Central Coast Catholic High School

(coeducational, Watsonville; on Hwy. 152, just down the road from the Sta. Cruz County Fairgrounds)

<http://www.stfrancishigh.net/index.html>

Open House: Was Nov 22

Shadowing: <http://www.stfrancishigh.net/admissions.html>

"Shadow a Shark" Days: Jan. 12, 20, 26; Feb. 2, 3, 9, 23; March 2, 9, 10, 23, 24, 30

Archbishop Mitty High School

(coeducational, Catholic, Santa Clara County)

http://www.mitty.com/admission/01_visitmitty.php

Open House: Was Nov. 22

Mount Madonna School

<http://www.mountmadonnaschool.org/admissions/>

Open House: Was Nov 15

MMS has been offering a coeducational, college preparatory education for over 30 years. They are located on Summit Road in the redwoods on the top of Mt. Madonna, with a bus to Morgan Hill and Gilroy. (The Upper School year starts with a 4-day white-water rafting/camping trip.)