Dear Upper School Families,

We have had another busy and exciting week here at CNS. We have learned about earthquakes and watched videos about past earthquakes as well as news accounts of the one happening early Tuesday in Alaska. We are grateful to have weather that while cold, isn't bitterly so. We are all looking forward to spring, which is right around the corner. (This will be our new mantra.)

I want to thank Michelle Roberts, CJ & Kat Watts, and Timothy Robinson for agreeing to drive on our next field trip on March 1. We have enough drivers and I will be able to finalize the reservations now.

Just a reminder that every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday (four days) students in grades 4-6 are required to write for 20 minutes, read for 20 minutes, and research for 20 minutes for homework. Students in grades 7 & 8 are required to complete 30 minutes of each of these activities on the same days. It is very important to build these abilities, reading and writing stamina, and learn to set aside time daily to work. If for some reason they do not get to complete this at night to turn in, then they will be allowed to work on it at recesses as necessary the following day.

We finally finished our Book Group books for Egypt on Thursday. This was one of the last loose ends we had to tie up to finish that unit. Both books were great, but with all the time off kids had, it was hard for them to really enjoy the plot as it moved to completion. They thoroughly enjoyed what we did with them this week.

We have been covering a lot of different areas in math including coordinate graphing, rounding, solving and graphing inequalities, functions, statistical measures of data, and ratios.

We have decided what we are making for our secret buddies. We will be making small stuffed cats. For this project we will need unbleached muslin, needles, thread, fiberfill, and small red, black, or soy beans. If you have any of these to share, please bring them in by next Tuesday. Each student will be making two cats because they all have two buddies. We will also be making another two since we had some late arrivals in the prek/kindergarten class. We will also be making them Valentines and do our reveal on February 14. This is the same day that we will begin our holiday reports in our class.

From now until we return from spring break, students staying for aftercare will be outside when weather permits until 4:00 when they will come in for the day and eat their snack.

Please note that to continue the tradition of the Valentine's Day Dance, we need parents to volunteer to organize, coordinate and chaperone the event. Without that assistance, there will be no Valentine's Day Dance. This counts for service hours. Next month is the end of the grading period and service hours will again be billed, so now is a good time to make sure that you get yours in. There are a lot of things that need to be done around the school that can count toward service hours. Check in with the office for a list.

A special note to eighth grade families: I have been notified by CCHS that they have not received the PSAT results yet, although they expect them soon. They should be back in time to be in the student packets at orientation.

Best wishes,

Carla

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Upcoming Events

Thursday, February 1: Love and Logic Playground Training at 5:00 (RSVP required)

Thursday, February 8: School Board Meeting at 6:00

Thursday, February 15: Noon Dismissal with childcare

Friday, February 16: End of the Grading Period and Institute Day (No School)

Wednesday, February 21: Ninth Grade Orientation at CCHS from 9:00-11:00

Thursday, February 22: Love and Logic Playground Training at 3:00 (RSVP required)

Thursday, March 1: "Shadowlands" performance at the Carson Center in Paducah (8:00-3:00)

Friday, March 9: Talent Show at 1:30

March 11-16: Spring Break