

# Quick Notes

Tuesday, September 15, 2009


Community School 7815 Williamson Rd. Roanoke, VA 24019 540/563-5036  
<http://www.communityschool.net> fax 540/362-1183 learn@communityschool.net

## School Calendar

All Week	Sept. 14-18		<b>Used Clothing &amp; School Supply Drive</b> (See details below.)
Tuesday	Sept. 15	7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	<b>Early Learner and Lower Elementary Gatherings</b> Katlyn, Tulie, and Ruth Ann (in art room) Beth (in Beth's room)
Wednesday	Sept. 16	12:15-12:45 p.m.	Lunch-A-Month (12:05-12:45 for middle school) - Parents Welcome (mini corn dogs, chips, chocolate pudding, lemonade)
Thursday	Sept. 17	7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	<b>Middle &amp; Upper Elementary Gatherings</b> Katie and Lena (in Lena's room) Kim and Betsy (in Kim's room)
Friday	Sept. 18	10:30 a.m.	<b>Class Name Skits- Basketball Court</b> – Parents Welcome
Monday	Sept. 21	6:15 p.m.	<b>Board of Trustees Meeting</b>
Wednesday	Sept. 23	12:15-12:45 p.m.	Pizza Day (12:05-12:45 for Middle School) - Parents Welcome No pizza day for Seminar students.
Thursday Monday	Sept. 24 Sept. 28	7:00 p.m.	<b>Middle School Gatherings</b> (in Emilie's room) <b>Student Pictures – Early Learner &amp; Elementary Students</b> (Please see details below.)
Tuesday	Sept. 29		<b>Student Pictures – Middle School Students &amp; Siblings</b> (Please see details below.)
Wednesday	Sept. 30	12:15-12:45 p.m.	Lunch-A-Month (12:05-12:45 for middle school) - Parents Welcome (chicken nuggets, chips, brownies, lemonade)
Monday	Oct. 5		<b>No Classes - School Closed</b> for Staff In-Service Day
Wednesday	Oct. 7	12:15-12:45 p.m.	Lunch-A-Month (12:05-12:45 for middle school) - Parents Welcome (pancake & sausage on a stick, syrup, cooked apples, cookie, lemonade)
Tuesday - Thursday	Oct. 13-15		<b>Fall Festival</b> (Watch for details from your child's teacher.)
Friday	Oct. 16		<b>School Closed – Everyone rest up after the Fall Festival Trips!</b>

## Gatherings Begin Tonight!

Gatherings are evenings for parents to learn more about their child's level. Team teachers will conduct the evening discussions and will talk about the curriculum for the level, schedules, and Fall Festival trips. They will go over details regarding fruit break, lunch, field trips, and homework appropriate for the level. Gatherings are also an opportunity to meet the Literacy Specialist and enrichment (Spanish, art, music, computer, and drama) teachers and learn about their programs. As these are informational meetings that involve staff and parents, they are for **adults only and childcare is not provided**. Please check the calendar section of *Quick Notes* for dates, times, and locations.

<p><b>Used Clothing &amp; School Supply Drive</b></p> 	<p>Community School, along with Community High School and the United Way of Roanoke Valley, will be collecting new or gently used clothing and school supplies for school-aged children during the week of Sept.14-18. If you have items to donate, please place them in the collection box outside of the main office.</p>
<p><b>The First Lunch-A-Month is Tomorrow, Sept. 16</b></p>	<p>You may order pizza or Lunch-A-Month for all or part of the year or pay as you go. If you are interested in prepaying for the year, please turn in your pizza, milk, and Lunch-A-Month orders and payments to the office. Family members can send money for extra slices if they wish to join their child for lunch on Pizza Day, \$1 per slice. Additional order forms are available in the office.</p>
<p><b>American Freestyle Karate Classes</b></p> <p>First meeting: Sept. 16</p> <p>Jennifer is looking forward to sharing this wonderful sport with Community School and hopes you can join her!</p>	<p>This year CS middle school teacher Jennifer will be offering classes in life skills and self-defense. Through the study of American Freestyle Karate students will learn about confidence, responsibility, and respect. All students from six years of age and up are welcome. The class will meet from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. on Wednesdays (excluding the Fall Festival and Thanksgiving week) through January at the Superkicks Leadership Academy in Salem. Jennifer will provide transportation to and from the academy. The cost for the semester is \$240. This fee includes a uniform, uniform patches, membership in the American Freestyle Karate Association, and belt graduation fee. The first meeting will be Wednesday, September 16. This will be an open house for all who are interested. Space is limited, so please pre-register your student by e-mailing (<a href="mailto:jenniferha@communityschool.net">jenniferha@communityschool.net</a>). If there are enough interested students, Jennifer will add a class on Fridays.</p>
<p><b>CS Running Club</b></p> <p>First Meeting on Sept. 17</p>	<p>CS Running Club will have its first meeting of the year on Thursday, September 17, at 3:30 p.m. on the basketball court. There are limited spaces for new members ages 9 and above, and applications are available in the main office on a first come, first served basis. Any questions or inquires can be addressed to Richard Amstutz 521-8430 or <a href="mailto:ramstutz@hughes.net">ramstutz@hughes.net</a>.</p>
<p><b>Class Name Skits Fri., Sept. 18</b></p> <p>10:30 a.m. on the basketball court</p>	<p>Parents - Join the fun on Friday, September 18, at 10:30 a.m. as the classes perform brief skits revealing their class names for the year. The skits will take place on the basketball court adjoining the elementary building. The classes will perform their skits in the following order: Katlyn, Tulie, Ruth Ann, Beth, Katie, Lena, Kim, Betsy, Katrina, Linda, Emilie, and Seminar. Class names are a big secret, so please do not ask your child to reveal anything before the skit!</p>
<p><b>Girls Sports Clinic</b></p> <p>Date: Sept. 19</p>	<p>Hollins University is hosting the 2009 Girls Sports Clinic on Saturday, September 19, from 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. The clinic is open to girls ages 7-13, and the entry fee is \$12. For more information and to register, go to <a href="http://www.CommonwealthGames.org">www.CommonwealthGames.org</a>.</p>
<p><b>Computer Club</b></p>	<p>Lelia is proud to announce that the computer club is full. Parents of computer club members, please watch for emails from Lelia keeping you updated on activities.</p>

<p><b>Choral Opportunities for Middle School Students</b></p> <p><b>Sign up this week!</b></p>	<p>This is the week to sign-up for MS Choir and Show Choir. MS Choir meets on Thursdays, beginning September 24, from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. Last year, the choir sang at the Thanksgiving luncheon, the book fair at Barnes &amp; Noble, the Local Hero Award ceremony, Arts Festival, Celebration, and the Choral Festival at Kings Dominion. Show Choir meets on Mondays during lunch and incorporates singing and movement; this group shared music at the book fair, the spaghetti dinner, Celebration, and the Choral Festival at Kings Dominion. Both are non-audition groups, with the requirement that members enjoy singing. For more information, contact Kim M at <a href="mailto:kimmuch@communityschool.net">kimmuch@communityschool.net</a>.</p>
<p><b>Order Scholastic Books in Spanish</b></p> <p>Order deadline: Sept. 25</p>	<p>Reading in Spanish is an excellent way for students to practice and expand their language skills, and Scholastic offers a nice selection of books in Spanish. If you are interested, Elena has order forms for you to pick up. Please return all orders, with a check made payable to Scholastic, to Elena by September 25.</p>
<p><b>Parent Packets</b></p>	<p>We will distribute Family Address Lists during Gatherings. Please watch for your Parent Packet including this item and other important information. In the interim, you can read the current Family Handbook on our website at <a href="http://www.communityschool.net/pdfs/parenthandbook.pdf">http://www.communityschool.net/pdfs/parenthandbook.pdf</a>.</p>
<p><b>Student Pictures</b></p> <p>Sept. 28 EL &amp; Elem. Sept. 29 Middle School &amp; Siblings Rain date: Sept. 30</p>	<p>Please call the school office to request a sibling photo--only students on the list will be photographed with siblings. If a family requires more than one set of proofs, please notify the office before September 28. Clothing for portraits can be dressy or casual. Small prints, plaids or solids work well. T-shirts with pictures or writing generally take attention away from the face. Most colors of clothing work well, although large areas of black and white <b>do not</b> work well.</p>
<p><b>Needed for Class</b></p>	<p>As you upgrade your existing music players, please consider donating your old ones! Middle School classes are looking for donations of new or used iPods or mp3 players to use for audio books. So many students are auditory learners, and we are hoping to use this technology to increase both their understanding and love of literature. Please contact Katrina if you would like to donate.</p>
<p><b>Everyone Can Be "Tech Support" for CS</b></p>	<p>When you shop online, please remember that our technology program will benefit from items purchased at Amazon.com if you use our portal at <a href="http://www.communityschool.net/giving_amazon.html">http://www.communityschool.net/giving_amazon.html</a> .</p> <p>Please bookmark this page and consider using our Amazon portal for your online purchases. Amazon sells much more than just books, and while the only cost to you will be a couple of extra mouse clicks, you can be tech support for CS! Ask your family and friends if they would also consider supporting us in this simple manner. In the past, we have purchased digital cameras, microphones, flash drives for student use, software, and books. In these difficult economic times, this is a way you can help put technology in the hands of our students with items that you would be purchasing anyway. Amazon offers free shipping on many orders over \$25. Many thanks for your support! Lelia</p>

<p><b>Parent Representatives to the Board of Trustees</b></p>	<p>Nominations requested for Early Learner/Elementary and Middle School Representatives to Community School's Board of Trustees. This can be a self-nomination, or you can nominate someone you think would serve well. If this interests you or you would like to nominate someone, please contact Holly at 563-5036 or hollyh@communityschool.net.</p>
<p><b>After School Program and Club</b></p> <p>Check out some of the fun activities your children will pursue after school this year!</p>	<p>Our After School Program and Club is a “happening place” this year! Lynn, our After School Coordinator, wants to share some of the upcoming activities with you. Club Day will be on Wednesdays, from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. The focus will be on giving back to the school and community. Listed below are some of activities currently planned:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Students will practice cooking skills by doing some of the prep work for the Lunch-A-Month program. They will make pudding and jello desserts and will do some cooking for after school snacks.</li> <li>2. Two CS mothers will be teaching knitting and crochet. Each child will choose the one he or she likes best and then make “granny squares” to be joined together to make quilts for shut-ins through Home Instead. We welcome donations of scrap yarn, and we would like to borrow knitting and crochet needles.</li> <li>3. Students will be making items to sell at the Strawberry Festival.</li> <li>4. Our big after school project will involve the creation of a school compost pile. After School students will be working in conjunction with the Early Learner classes to collect organic materials from the classrooms on a daily basis. The compost will be used to help our plants and trees. We will learn about composting with guest speakers coming to talk about this, and other areas of interest, on Wednesdays.</li> <li>5. Students will make crafts to go with the themes and/or holidays of each month. On Friday, we made origami gifts for Grandparents’ Day on Sunday, September 13. Two students shared their origami skills with the other students and will be demonstrating more origami throughout the year.</li> <li>6. The Fun Project for the year will be collecting scrap donations (from our families) of nails, screws, metal, wood, cardboard boxes, paint, brushes, etc. We also need safety glasses and tools on loan. Using the collected materials, we will stretch our skills as creative recyclers and build a “city” in the field by Williamson Road. We invite all students and parents to join us on a Saturday (date to be announced) to assist with this community creation.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Before School Care/ After School Care</b></p> <p>Between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m., you can reach After School by calling 400-1922.</p>	<p>Before School Care (BSC) for all children will be in the art room (old Boxwoods House first floor, front classroom) from 7:00 to 8:15 a.m. Parents, we ask that you please walk your students to Before School. No staff will be on duty outside between 7:00 and 8:15 a.m., and children are not allowed to be outside prior to 8:15 a.m.</p> <p>After School (ASP) will be outside or in the art room. After School attendance will be taken at 3:45 p.m. Snack will be served at 4:15. All parents will need to sign out their children when they pick them up. All children must be picked up by 6:00 p.m. Parents will be billed monthly for Before and After School services.</p>

<p><b>Attendance and School Hours</b></p> <p>In the event that a student is chronically late to school or absent, you will be contacted by your child's teacher and/or the school administrator to determine the reason and establish a plan to be on time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Students need to arrive to school on time each day. <b>School begins at 8:45 a.m.</b></li> <li>❖ If a student arrives at school after the 8:45 bell, his/her parent or guardian will need to walk the child to the main office and have a class admit slip completed by an office staff member. If the child is six years old or younger, the parent or guardian will need to accompany the child to the classroom. Parents or guardians of children seven years old or older are required to visually monitor the child's entrance into the classroom. Without disrupting classroom activities, the student will need to give the class admit slip to the teacher.</li> <li>❖ Consistent and daily attendance is very important in the educational life of a child.</li> <li>❖ Attendance is taken every day and monitored by the classroom teacher.</li> <li>❖ Excessive tardiness and/or absences may impact a student's placement in the upcoming school year.</li> <li>❖ If a student needs to be picked up during the school day, please notify the teacher in advance.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Morning Drop Off &amp; Afternoon Pick Up Logistics</b></p> <p>Always drive slowly and watch out for children!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ School begins at 8:45 a.m. Students may begin to arrive at 8:15 a.m.</li> <li>❖ School ends at 3:15 p.m.</li> <li>❖ Drivers should be in line to drop off and pick up students at the end of the driveway close to school. Staff members will assist students to and from their vehicles.</li> <li>❖ If you wish to park, please use the parking area to the left of the driveway. <b><i>Do not</i></b> block traffic flow in the pick-up zone or the fire lane.</li> <li>❖ <b><i>If there is a change in who is picking up your child, you must notify the office in advance. We will not release your child unless we have heard <u>directly</u> from a parent. Proper identification will be required of the person picking up your child.</i></b></li> </ul>