



COMMUNITY  
SCHOOL

# Quick Notes

Tuesday, January 24, 2012

## School Calendar

(Please visit [http://www.communityschool.net/news\\_cal.html](http://www.communityschool.net/news_cal.html) for a more detailed school calendar.)

Wednesday	Jan. 25	12:15-12:45 pm	Pizza Day (12:05-12:45 for middle school) Parents Welcome Bake Sale (sponsored by the upper elementary classes)
Friday	Jan. 27	schedules attached	<b>Conference Day (No Classes)</b> - Snow Date: February 2 <b>End of First Semester</b>
Monday	Jan. 30		<b>Start of Second Semester</b>
Wednesday	Feb. 1	12:15-12:45 pm	Lunch-A-Month (12:05-12:45 for middle school) Parents Welcome (tacos, chips & salsa, black beans, lemonade) Bake Sale (sponsored by the lower elementary classes)
Wednesday	Feb. 1	6:15 pm	<b>Board of Trustees Meeting</b> (Emilie's room)
Wednesday	Feb. 8	12:15-12:45 pm	Pizza Day (12:05-12:45 for middle school) Parents Welcome Bake Sale (sponsored by the middle elementary class)
Saturday	Feb. 11	9:00am-1:00pm	<b>Parent Workday</b>
Wednesday	Feb. 15	12:15-12:45 pm	Lunch-A-Month (12:05-12:45 for middle school) Parents Welcome (quesadillas, chips, corn, lemonade) Bake Sale (proceeds benefit the Bolivian Exchange Program)
Thursday- Tuesday	Feb. 16- Feb. 21	multiple times & locations	<b>Marginal Arts Festival</b> (sponsored by Community High) Visit <a href="http://www.marginalarts.com/">http://www.marginalarts.com/</a> for details.
Monday	Feb. 20		<b>School Closed for Presidents' Day</b>
Wednesday	Feb. 22	12:15-12:45 pm	Pizza Day (12:05-12:45 for middle school) Parents Welcome Bake Sale (sponsored by the upper elementary classes)
Thursday	Feb. 23		<b>CS Students Leave for Bolivia</b>
Wednesday	Feb. 29		<b>Deadline for Submitting Financial Aid Application to SSS</b>
Wednesday	Feb. 29	12:15-12:45 pm	Lunch-A-Month (12:05-12:45 for middle school) Parents Welcome (mac & cheese, green beans, lemonade) Bake Sale (proceeds benefit the Middle School Choirs)
Tuesday	Mar. 6	7:00 p.m.	<b>Preschool &amp; Kindergarten Information Session</b>
Wednesday	Mar. 7		<b>No Classes (Staff In-Service Day)</b>

## Students Present Local Hero Award to Angels of Assisi

On Friday, January 13, our middle school students presented Community School's 2012 Local Hero Award to Don Mason, founder of Angels of Assisi.

Since 2002, Community School has sponsored the Local Hero Award to honor the teachings of Martin Luther King, Jr. This year, the Local Hero Award Committee chose to honor a local non-profit agency whose efforts in the community have exemplified Dr. King's peaceful efforts. The award committee, composed of eight middle school students chosen by their teachers, chose Angels of Assisi because of the organization's commitment to providing low-cost dental and health care for

pets, spaying and neutering services, a farm animal sanctuary, and foster care and adoption services. Don Mason, Angels of Assisi founder, attended the ceremony to receive the gorgeous and symbolic mosaic art piece.

For their commitment and hard work, we extend our appreciation to the Local Hero committee members: Cecilia C., Joe H., Eve-lynn D., Rocky B., Cais T., Sarah L., Tory H., and Alexandra J. Thanks also go to Community School's Choir, Kim Mucha, the Local Hero Award art Friday Group, Pat Thurston, Gene Lurker, Lynn Owens, and Michi Hines.

WSLS, Channel 10, covered the event and a link to their article can be found at <http://www2.wsls.com/news/2012/jan/13/angels-assisi-receives-community-school-award-ar-1610082/>.

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## CS Students to See American Shakespeare Center Production on January 26

**\*Parents please note that your middle school child will not be ready for pick up until 3:30 on Jan. 26.**

On Thursday, January 26, all CS middle school students will be attending the American Shakespeare Center's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Community High School's June M. McBroom Theater. We will be leaving Community School at 12:15 for the 1:00 performance and will return to CS by 3:30. Check out the following links for more information about this production and the American Shakespeare Center: <http://www.americanshakespearecenter.com/> and <http://blogs.roanoke.com/arts/2012/01/american-shakespeare-center-to-bring-a-midsummer-nights-dream-to-community-high-school-theater/>.

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## Music Performances by Upper Elementary Students

Upper elementary students will celebrate their accomplishments in the Music Karate units during the next few weeks, and we welcome families to join the party. Recorder Karate students will have their end of unit party on Monday, January 30, at 2:30 pm in the music room. Ukulele Karate students will have theirs on Monday, February 6, at 2:30 pm in the music room. Students will share a solo song of their choice, and we'll share ice cream sundaes. Students will also receive their certificate of completion. This has been a successful unit, and I (Kim M) am very proud of their enthusiasm and work.

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## Talent of Tomorrow

Can you sing, dance, or play an instrument? Do you have a special talent to share? If so, then audition for Community School's first annual talent show, "Talent of Tomorrow." We are planning a fundraiser spaghetti dinner and talent show for the Yamaha MIE Keyboard Lab in March. Karen and Kim's Music Marketing Friday Group is planning the talent show, from advertising to auditions. Information on the when and where for the dinner will follow soon. We are looking for talent to audition for the talent show. Auditions will be held in the music room on Thursday, February 9 and 16, from 12:15 to 12:45 pm and Friday, February 10, from 11:45 am to 12:45 pm. Sign up in the music room. Please see the attachment designed by Moss S. for all the information.

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## New CHS Venues Spotlighted for Role in Downtown Art Scene

On Sunday, January 22, *The Roanoke Times* featured Community High School on the front page of the “Extra” section. The article explores how the high school’s new venues—the June M. McBroom Theater and Liminal: Alternative Art Space—have instantly turned CHS into an important player in the downtown Roanoke art scene. Check out the article at <http://www.roanoke.com/extra/wb/303727> .

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## 2012 Marginal Arts Festival

February 16 - 21 at venues around the Valley.

Don’t forget to visit <http://www.marginalarts.com/> for detailed information about the 2012 Marginal Arts Festival sponsored by Community High. Each day of this year’s festival will explore a different place and focus on the cultural offerings to be found in and around that location. Each day will be organized from within the featured community.

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## Peek Into Our Classrooms

These “peeks” are intended as a sampling of the learning activities occurring in our classrooms. Not every child will participate in each of the activities listed for their level. For specifics about your child’s class, please visit the teacher blogs on our website.



In the fourth session of this year’s Friday Groups, each of our middle school students is enjoying one of the following electives:

- ✓ **Modern Civil Rights with Katrina:** This group will examine the reasons that different groups of people have been (or are) excluded, not just in school settings, but across our nation. Students will reflect briefly on the history of the civil rights movement and will spend time learning about groups that have faced prejudice and exclusion, reading, writing in a journal, watching documentaries, researching, and discussing.
  - ✓ **Brainastics: Puzzles and Games with Jennifer:** Students will learn tricks to solve lots of different kinds of puzzles, play games, solve mysteries, and enjoy some Sherlock Holmes. The types of puzzles and games included will vary from codes, optical illusions and logic to math-based, spatial, and word activities. Students will also create their own puzzles.
  - ✓ **Immigration Exploration with Linda:** This group will look at immigrants in the Roanoke Valley, working with the Refugee and Immigration Center to find out what happens to refugees who come to live in Roanoke and to develop a service project which helps immigrants feel welcomed to their new community. Students will also learn about the countries and culture of the incoming groups.
  - ✓ **Music Marketing with Kim M. and Karen:** Students will have the opportunity to take part in planning and marketing a real event—the talent show for the fundraising spaghetti dinner for the keyboard lab. Activities include planning a talent show, advertising the show, auditioning groups, and making a CD of CS classes and students. This group will integrate technology, music, and marketing.
  - ✓ **Open Jewellery Studio with Pat:** Students will explore all types of jewelry making with each student artist deciding what he or she wants to create. The art pieces are limited only by the artist’s imagination.
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## Safety Reminders



### Cell Phone Use

**When you are dropping off or picking up your children, please do not use your cell phone while in line.** Imagine all these things going on: Your children are leaving or entering a vehicle (and may need help with car seats); they are saying their good-byes or hellos; they are taking or bringing their backpack, lunches, coats, etc. with them; access to a car's trunk may be needed; a car has more than one child entering or departing; and cars are pulling in and out of the parking lot. A lot is happening during this time. If you need to use your cell phone, please park and talk. *Using cell phones during this time increases the risk of an accident involving a child.*

### Entering or Leaving CS

We have had several reports of “close calls” taking place at the entrance to school. A member of our staff reported a CS parent following so close behind her that when she made the right turn onto the school entrance, the parent vehicle swerved onto the curb to avoid hitting her. We have had cars “t-boned” when leaving CS because of heavy traffic on Williamson Road. *Please use extra caution when entering or exiting our driveway.*

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## Financial Aid Applications for 2012-13

Did you receive the e-mail explaining the CS financial aid process? If not, please contact [victoria@communityschool.net](mailto:victoria@communityschool.net).

The link to SSS for 2012-2013 financial aid applications is active on our website at [http://www.communityschool.net/apply\\_tuition\\_aid.html](http://www.communityschool.net/apply_tuition_aid.html) . You can file online or download a paper copy of the application from the SSS website. **We will not be mailing financial aid application forms to families.** You should submit your completed financial aid application to SSS by February 29. Note: SSS will charge you an additional fee if you choose to mail a paper copy of the application instead of filing online. The Financial Aid Committee will notify families of tuition grant awards in late March. Please see Michi if you have questions about the financial aid process.

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## Business Manager Out of the Office

Our Business Manager, Sue, will be out of the office from February 6 through February 14. If you have questions about your account or if you need information for your income tax forms, please contact her before or after these dates at [sue@communityschool.net](mailto:sue@communityschool.net).

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## School Stuff Store

This year Kim's math class is remodeling the Cool Stuff Store. We are changing the name to the School Stuff Store. We will have lots of fun things, but they will be only school supplies. We will have notepads, special erasers, mechanical pencils, colored pencils, and much more. Everything will cost less than \$2. The School Stuff Store opened last week and will operate each Wednesday at the same time as and adjacent to the Bake Sale. We hope you can come to the new School Stuff Store! (This message was brought to you by Lorraine, Sierra, and Tallulah.)

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## Parent Workday

Our next parent workday will be on Saturday, Feb. 11. Please email Michi Hines, administrative director, to sign up ([michi@communityschool.net](mailto:michi@communityschool.net)). You will be working with Gene Lurker, our maintenance and repair supervisor. Future parent workdays are scheduled for Mar. 3 and April 21. Thank you for your assistance!

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