



# Heads Up

February 7, 2014

**DISCOVERY DAY!** On Saturday, February 22 from 9:30 am to 11:00 am, Chesapeake Academy will host community children ages 4 to 7 for a fun morning of FREE hands-on activities based on the book, *Each Peach Pear Plum*, by Janet and Allan Ahlberg. Discovery Days are a way for Chesapeake to introduce potential families to our facilities, teachers, and educational methods while providing a service to the community. If you know of friends or family with age-appropriate children, please encourage them to attend! Registration is required. Contact Hilary Scott with questions, 804.438.5575.

**Drama at CA:** The actors kept the audience laughing while describing 11 reasons not to be in a play, but discovered how much fun it is to act. Over the last marking period, students in the Drama Activity Period have practiced lines and designed a set and costumes to bring together a very funny play.

**Smart Boards for Smart Kids!** Kindergarten is thrilled to be using the new short arm interactive projector system. Each day they take part in fun and educational games designed to challenge all learners. Some examples include word recognition in the form of an exciting basketball game, and coin counting from a movable piggy bank. Thanks to the Wiley Foundation for all of the computer-aided fun and learning taking place in Early Childhood.

**Author Study:** Lower School students from three different classrooms have started an author study on Beverly Cleary. They are working in multi-age groups to read four of Mrs. Cleary's classics; *Dear Mr. Henshaw*, *Ramona Quimby: Age 8*, *The Mouse and the Motorcycle*, and *Muggie Maggie*. The literature groups will meet throughout the month of February to explore these classic novels. Take a few minutes to stop by the bulletin board in the Lower School hallway and read some of the predictions the students made before reading the first chapters!

**Third Grade Thoughts:** After reading a biography about the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. during the month of January, third graders have a lot to say about this important man and his role in our country's history:

"He helped blacks have the rights they wanted, like the right to vote." A. Fulmer

"He fought for rights and freedom." B. Pittman

"What was so great about Martin Luther King, Jr.? He was great, he was humble, he was determined, he was loving, he was a man of peace. That's what makes him great." C. Souders

"Martin Luther King, Junior was a big part in stopping segregation." H. Knoll

"Martin Luther King, Jr. was a man who fought for what was right. He never gave up." T. Smith

**On the Court:** Next week both JV teams play away at Aylett on Tuesday and Varsity teams will play at Ware on Thursday. The ISAC Basketball tournament will be held on the 19th and 21st at Christchurch School. Times are still to be determined, but please plan to come support the Ospreys across the river!

**Gung Hey Fat Choy!** Happy New Year and the best of luck to you! In celebration of the Chinese New Year, first grade has painted a parade of dragons for the LS hallway. As they learned about the culture, traditions, and geography of China, first graders also learned to speak a few phrases in the Chinese language and to draw the Chinese character for spring.

On Friday, January 31, the fourth grade Ancient World History class also celebrated the Chinese Lunar New Year! Each child was responsible for creating a favor to share with their classmates representing the Chinese culture.

"I made the Chinese Dragon. Dragons represent strength and respect. Chinese dragons are used during the New Year celebration because it's meant to bring a prosperous year."  
R. Meberg

"We made Chinese red envelopes. The Chinese red envelopes are only given on special occasions. Money is often placed in the envelopes, but we used candy! The amount of money the Chinese put in depends on their religion and culture, however, the amount of money should never end with a four because that means death. The Chinese envelopes were meant to scare away the warriors." L. Denton and C. Stinson

"I made Chinese fans. Chinese fans were simply used to block the sun and keep cool. The word fan in Chinese means 'kindness' or 'good'. The fans represent good luck!" A. Stanley

"I made Chinese rattle drums. The Chinese rattle drum is one of the most traditional toys in China. Chinese rattle drums were used to get peoples attention." E. Stanley

"I used a template to make a horse. This is the Chinese New Year of the horse. I chose to use the color red for the horses, because it means good luck." E. Gardner

**Stories on a Small Scale:** In the latest Pre-Algebra challenge, students are exploring scale through story telling and set design. With a toy, such as a plastic donkey or a Playmobile fireman, serving as a main character in a story of their own creation, students must calculate the scale of the toy to the actual measurements. Then, using this scale, students are working to build a "set" that includes inanimate objects and other characters, all modeled to scale. This short challenge is a precursor to the major Dream House Design Challenge coming mid-February. By developing a strong understanding of scale and proportions, students can work more fluidly with the complex tasks related to the architecture project.

**Shaking Things Up:** After completing their unit on earthquakes, sixth grade students worked in teams to design and construct seismographs, machines used all across the globe to measure the strength of seismic waves and earthquakes. The seismographs that the students built needed to be able to record the vibrations caused by a shaking table for at least 20 seconds and to be able to distinguish between large table-quakes and small ones. Using a wide variety of materials, in just three days, the sixth grade class created four working seismographs, and crafted advertisements to sell their designs as fictional products.

**Art Abounds!** We have a new featured artist on the board in the front office; Faith Hattersley is the artist for this month. Please stop by and enjoy her work. First graders have been celebrating the snowy weather by creating snow angel mixed media artwork. This provided a great link with the weather unit they are studying in class. Kindergarten and first graders also celebrated Chinese New Year on Friday by painting Chinese dragons. Be sure to check these out in the Lower School hallway - they are fantastic! Our Middle School students have been keeping just as busy and Art Around Town will feature some of their work. Mille Tompkins' work will be displayed at Dr. Westbrook's office, Sophie Scott's will be shown at The Dandelion, and Z Green's will be at Dr. Stout's office.

**New Activity Periods for 3rd-8th graders:** With the new marking period, activity period selections have changed. Groups will meet three Thursdays a month during the marking period to allow students to explore a variety of interests and even find some new ones! Here's what's happening in the 3rd marking period:

*Teaching Technology:* In this unique collaboration with Rappahannock Westminister-Canterbury, students will lead 4 "Technology Petting Zoos" at RVV-C to assist seniors with a variety of tech tasks, such as downloading apps, Skyping, playing Wii, and adding contacts to a cell phone.

*Shake, Rattle, and Roll:* Students will explore the world of rhythm and percussion instruments from around the world. They will build instruments, learn about percussion in world music, and may even compose some musical pieces!

*Reading:* For those bookworms who just can't put down the latest good read, students can find a cozy place to enjoy their own books. Book discussion and recommendations will flow naturally!

*Photography:* Photos can be so much more than Instagram snapshots taken on a cell phone. In this activity period, students will learn about composition, lighting, perspective, and other elements that take photos from just fine to fantastic.

*Basketball Clinic:* For students who can't get enough basketball! In this clinic, students will practice skills with games and fun competitions.

*Fiesta Club:* In this exploration of Spanish culture and language, students will play games, watch videos, and perform skits to learn more.

*With \$5,000:* What would you do with \$5,000? In this stock market game, students learn the basics of economics and play a stock market game that will take them through the marking period.

### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

**Monday, February 10:** Letters of Intent/deposit due  
**Wednesday, February 12:** PALS performance; CAPP meeting 8:30 am

**Friday, February 14-17:** President's Day long weekend

**Tuesday, February 18:** Classes resume

**Wednesday, February 19:** ISAC Basketball tournament at CCS

**Friday, February 21:** Interims sent home; ISAC Basketball tournament at CCS

**Thursday, February 27:** Enrollment Agreement/deposit due