



# Heads Up

November 15, 2013

## **Welcome to Charlie Li and Ms. Hillary May!**

Charlie Li joined the sixth grade class this week as a new student at Chesapeake Academy. Charlie joins his sister, Leona, a current first grade student. He is excited to become our newest Osprey! Please join us in welcoming Charlie to the CA community.

We are also thrilled to announce that Ms. Hillary May has accepted our offer to serve as a long term sub within the 4th and 5th grade Bridge to the Middle School program during Mrs. Herman's family leave. Ms. May has a BA in English from Virginia Tech and is working on her M.Ed. at the College of William and Mary. She has worked with students in a variety of settings and is well versed in differentiated instruction principles that are key elements of our program. In addition to her content knowledge and instructional skills, Ms. May brings a strong work ethic, enthusiasm, and a desire to engage with all members of the community. She will work closely with Mrs. Keese, Mrs. Herman, and Mrs. Parker to ensure that the curriculum goals and individual student needs are met. We look forward to welcoming Ms. May as a member of the CA team when Mrs. Herman goes on family leave.

**Thinking Thursdays:** The Activity Period is designed to connect students who have the same interests and to let them grow in the skills and knowledge of that particular topic. Some choices are offered by teachers, some are offered by friends of the school, and some are requested by the students. Students in third through eighth grade are able to choose activities, and the Pre-K through second grade students benefit by having groups visit their classrooms. It is a win-win situation for all involved. This marking period we have seven different offerings which include Tone Chimes, Drama, Drawing Outside the Box, Tiny Teachers, Board Games, Cooking and Biking with Helmets. Please remember to talk to your child each Thursday to see what's new in his/her activity period!

**Dioramas:** Next time you are on campus, please stop by the library and check out the wonderful diorama projects created by fifth grade. The dioramas represent a range of scenes selected by the students from Gary Paulsen's novel, *Hatchet*. The student's made the dioramas come to life by using a variety of materials. Also, they were required to complete a short summary of the novel and explain how they created their diorama. We are looking to starting our next novel, *Tuck Everlasting*!

**Author study:** Our 3rd and 4th graders have started their author study focusing on Roald Dahl. Students are working in literature circles and multi-age groupings to explore his wonderful works of literature. Students are exploring works such as *The Witches*, *BFG*, *Matilda*, and *The Magic Finger*.

**Goldie Blox:** Thank you so much to CA parent '17, Corey Stewart-Hassman, who worked with our 3rd grade girls on an engineering game designed to engage young girls in principles of physical science. Using clues and directions from Goldie Blox and the Spinning Machine, the group worked collaboratively to design and build a variety of gears that worked together to complete tasks. Talk about the 4 Cs: creativity, collaboration, critical thinking, and communication all in one fun activity!

**Urbanna Oyster Festival Education Day:** Third grade is finishing up their scientific studies about living systems with a focus on ecosystems. This unit began as the children attended the Urbanna Oyster Festival Education day on Oct. 31. The focus will culminate as they explore how living and nonliving things interact and depend on each other - exploring food webs and energy pyramids. Discussions will circle back to the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem and how it relates to our daily lives. We will also consider the importance of the Bay in the history of Virginia when colonists first settled in Jamestown.

**A request from our EC and LS classes:** We are planning to participate in the YMCA's Festival of Trees again this year to benefit the Guardian Program. If anyone out there has a small artificial Christmas tree that they would like to donate to this good cause, please contact the classroom teacher.

**Drum roll please!** Oyster Roast Parent Chairs Kelly Antonio and Camille Bragg are thrilled to announce the net proceeds of our fall fundraising event. With gratitude to all sponsors, donors, attendees and volunteers, we are pleased that the goal was exceeded, netting \$32,287. Next, the 2014 Auction! Save the date of May 3rd to attend this fabulous event that will be chaired by Current Parent, Adrienne Bugg. As you know, every student benefits from the proceeds of the Oyster Roast and the Auction through enhanced academic programs including the integration of current technology into the curriculum and increased educational opportunities both on and off campus.

**Reminder: Hot Lunch payments due!** Many parents signed their children up for the hot lunch program back in August. At that time, only partial payment (pizza and sub lunches) was required. The second and final installments are now due for the remainder of the year if you did not pay in full when you turned in your paperwork. All payments for the hot lunch program need to be paid in full no later than November 15. If you are not sure about what/if you owe additional money, please contact Kelly Antonio ([kantonio@chesapeakeacademy.org](mailto:kantonio@chesapeakeacademy.org)) directly. This is a wonderful fundraiser for our Seacamp classes and we appreciate the support all of you have given to the program!

**SSAT class:** We are please to be able to offer an SSAT prep class for 7th and 8th grade students taking the Secondary School Admission Test in February. The course will meet on four Sundays in January (5th, 12th, 19th and 26th) from 2 - 4 pm. The cost is \$100 and includes materials. Registration forms will go home next week. Register for the SSAT at [www.ssat.org](http://www.ssat.org).

## **IMPORTANT DATES:**

**Wednesday, November 20:** Tag Day

**Friday, November 22:** BoxTop Final Friday

**Wednesday, November 27:** Thanksgiving break begins

**Monday, December 2:** Classes resume

