

Cherry Tree Chatter

A copublication of CTE and the CTE PTO

Publication Date: February 04, 2021

Upcoming Events at CTE:

February 10th

Late Start-School begins at 8:30 am

February 12th

Valentine's Day Celebrations

February 15th

President's Day No School

February 17th

Wednesday Baker's

February 24th

Late Start-School begins at 8:30 am

Black History Month-Poetry/Art Contest Deadline

March 8th-19th

I-Read 3 Testing Window (3rd Grade Only)

March 8th-12th

Food Service Appreciation Week

March 10th

Late Start-School begins at 8:30 am

March 19th

Last Day to Order a Yearbook

April 15th

Spring Trivia Night Fundraiser

~NEW~ ATTENTION 5th GRADE FAMILIES

6th Grade Scheduling Info



As you continue to prepare your child for sixth grade, we ask that you take time to watch the two videos in the links below. The first video focuses on the scheduling process and will walk you through how to access the online course registration system with your child and help them make class selections. The second video provides additional information on the middle school performing arts program and opportunities you may wish to explore for your child. During these unique times, we appreciate your assistance as we seek to make the transition from elementary school to middle school as easy as possible.

[Link to Scheduling Video](#)

[Link to Performing Arts Video](#)

In addition, the link below will provide you with written instructions for the scheduling process.

[Scheduling Instructions](#)

Inside of the first two weeks of February, counselors from the middle schools will be visiting the elementary schools to assist fifth grade students with the scheduling process. Virtual students can watch the video, which will take them through the scheduling process, and use the linked instructions to make their initial requests. If you have questions or need assistance, please reach out to your child's counselor. The online course registration will remain open through the month of February so that you can review your child's selections.

Additional information on transition activities will be coming this spring.

~NEW~

Dress for the Weather



Winter has seemed to evade us until recently, but it looks like the month of February could hold some continued snow and colder temps. We wanted to take this opportunity to remind families to please make sure your child is dressed for the weather, as we want to try and get students outside as often as we can! If the temperature is 20 degrees or higher (including windchill), and there are areas cleared of precipitation for classes to pod in - we will go outside. If there was recent snow; there may be snow near the cleared areas that the kids could play in if they have their boots. Dress warm and be safe!

~NEW~



Explore the History of Juneteenth by participating in The Carmel Clay Schools Juneteenth Art & Poetry Contest. Write a poem about this holiday and what it means to you and/or our community. Submit your poem or artwork by February 24, 2021 at 4pm via email. Click on the link for more details.

[Juneteenth Art & Poetry Contest](#)

~ INFO ~



Yearbook Orders are due Friday, March 19, 2021

It's time to order your 2020-2021 Yearbook. Order forms will go home with students on Friday, 1/8/21. You can order using the form or you can order online.

To order online click on the link <https://inter-state.com/yearbook> and use code 53209Z.

Cost for the yearbook is \$16.00. Checks should be made payable Inter-State Studio. Please order before March 19, 2021.

~ INFO ~

Kindergarten
Registration
Begins January 19th!



Carmel Clay Schools' kindergarten registration for the 2021-22 school year will be available beginning Tuesday, January 19, 2021. Students must be at least five years old by August 1, 2021, to start kindergarten in August 2021.

When registering children, parents/guardians will need an official birth certificate (not a hospital record) and proof of residency. Proof of residency consists of a rental agreement, purchase agreement, closing documents or deed, and a utility (electric or gas) statement. Please note that immunization records must be submitted to the school by the first day of instruction. Those records may also be scanned and uploaded online, dropped off at the school, or sent by a doctor's office.

Specific questions regarding kindergarten registration and programming should be directed to your child's school. Parents/guardians are encouraged to have students enrolled by Friday, March 5, 2021.

Our new registration site and instructions will be available via the [Carmel Clay Schools' website](#), starting Tuesday, January 19.

~ INFO ~
**Valentine's
Day Info**



Please remember that in support of school policy, **no candy or food** is to be brought into school to be passed out. If it is brought in or attached to a Valentine, it will have to be removed from the Valentine by the school. However, students are allowed to attach stickers, tattoos, pencil, etc. to their Valentine's Day cards. We will celebrate on Friday, February 12th. Virtual students will also exchange Valentines, but virtually and under the direction of their virtual teacher.

~ INFO ~
Carpool



New Year Reminder!

All thank you for your work in making carpool efficient and safe! You can reference the procedures here:

[Morning](#)

[Afternoon](#)

~ INFO ~



**Late Start
Calendar**

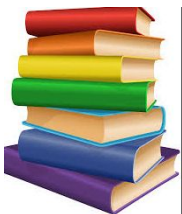
Click on the link below to see calendar dates for late starts. On late start days school will begin at 8:35 am. Bus routes will arrive 40 minutes later. Please log on to your [Parent Powerschool Portal](#) for exact pick up times.

[Late Start Calendar Dates](#)

ESE (Carmel Parks & Recreation Student Enrichment Program) will offer a Late Start Program for all CTE Students. Pre-registration is required. Click on the link for registration instructions.

[ESE Late Start Program](#)

~ INFO ~
**BOOK RENTAL
is now DUE**



In an effort to reduce time, money, and paper, parents can now pay their children's textbook rental through a secure website, QuickPay™. With a few simple mouse clicks, parents can view assessed fees, any outstanding balances, and pay for multiple children at Carmel Clay Schools (CCS) in a single transaction. Parents will no longer have to send payments with their children.

How do I use Student QuickPay?

1. Log in to the Parent Portal
2. Click on **Resources (on the left-hand side) and then Textbook Payment**

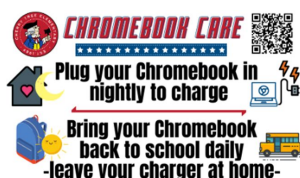
You can pay online via electronic check, debit card, or credit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express.) The school's office will still accept cash, check, or money order payable to **Carmel Clay Schools Bookrental**.

~ INFO ~
Reminder
CCS Food
Service



CCS will provide free breakfast and lunch to all students for the remainder of the school year.

Chromebook
Care



Make sure you charge your chromebook each evening and don't forget to bring your chromebook to school each day!!

Please be advised that students will begin bringing home their Chromebooks each night, starting Monday, November 16th. Chargers should remain at home. A video will be sent out for students and families to review best practices on handling their Chromebooks. We suggest families choose a specific 'home' for their student's Chromebook, where it can be charged and brought back ready for use the next school day.

Please visit the [Canvas Parent FAQ Page](#) or [Virtual Learning Support](#) websites for additional support.

Please review the below Chromebook FAQ's for more information on how to care for your Chromebook.

[Chromebook FAQ's](#)

Inclement
Weather Days
Info



With the success of our virtual learning programs' implementation across all grade levels, we plan to replace school closures with Inclement Weather Days. Students will be engaged in approximately 2-3 hours of virtual learning on these designated days. Learning will be asynchronous, meaning students will not follow a schedule along with a teacher or take part in live lessons. Students may complete assignments as time and support allow during the day.

Teachers will post office hours on their Canvas homepage. Office hours will not begin earlier than 9:00 a.m. During these hours, teachers will be available to answer real-time questions through the inbox feature built into Canvas. Teachers will monitor the Canvas inbox throughout the day during school hours.

Weather Delay
Info



Winter weather is around the corner, so please take a moment to familiarize yourself with our updated procedures. We will still operate with a traditional 2-hour delay when needed to ensure safe transportation in the morning for our students. However, due to the later start times for secondary schools, we will also have a new 1-hr delay schedule as an option. Delays will be announced via email, Carmel Clay Schools social media, and the local news. We also recommend receiving emergency communication on your cell phone. However, you must [opt-in through our website](#) to begin receiving these texts or calls.

Join PTO Leadership



Join the CTE PTO Leadership team!

The Cherry Tree PTO is hard at work building a board of incredible parent volunteers for next school year. Can you see your talents at work in any of these roles? Check out the PTO Board Volunteer [2021-2022 Nominating Preference Form](#).

LEGO Club Challenges Week 1 & 2



This week's Lego Challenge is to build an aircraft/space ship/rocket out of Legos! The challenge runs through Sunday, February 7th. Please send an image of your creation to cteptopatriotlegoclub@gmail.com by 5:00 pm February 7th and include the name and teacher of your builder(s).

Next Week's Challenge is to build something using only red, pink and purple Lego pieces. This challenge begins Monday, February 8th and ends Sunday, February 14th. Please send an image of your creation to cteptopatriotlegoclub@gmail.com by 5:00 pm February 14th and include the name and teacher of your builder(s).

By sending in a picture, you grant permission for the PTO to share this image on it's social media channels, in the Chatter, PTO website, or other avenues.

At the end of February, one builder (or team of builders) will be randomly selected to win a \$25 gift card to the Lego Store! Ready, Set, Build!

Parents' Virtual Trivia Night



Announcing - the 2021 Parents Night "Out" Virtual Trivia Night!


SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, April 15 | 6:30pm

More details to come later this month on how to get involved and how to register as an individual or part of a team. Thinking of creating a team? It's never too early to brainstorm who will join (4-10 players) and the all-important team name!

~NEW~

Carmel Tree Plenish Project



Eastern Redbud Eastern White Pine Tulip Poplar


Get a Tree Planted in Your Yard for Only \$5!

We will Deliver & Plant the Trees or you can Pick them up on April 17th
Order as Many Trees as You Would Like

Help offset CHS's use of 12.3 Million Sheets of Paper Each Year!

Carmel's Tree-Plenish Project is the #1 Largest in the Nation!

Request Tree(s) before March 17th!
<https://www.tree-plenishevents.org/carmel>



<https://www.tree-plenishevents.org/carmel>

Small Business Owner?



We'd love to hear from our Cherry Tree families who own businesses so we can connect with you about opportunities with the Parents Night Out Event and more!

Complete this form to share with us about your local business.

<https://forms.gle/PnjbXq6xY5zR6ubX6>

Wednesday Bakers



Do you like to bake? If you are looking for a socially distant way to get involved with PTO, here's a great option: Wednesday Bakers!

[Sign-Up](#) to bring 2-dozen individually wrapped homemade or store-bought goodies to support CTE Staff. You've been helping fill up our volunteer spots, THANK YOU!

We have 3 more volunteers needed for the month of MAY!

Wellness Week



Check out the new February Wellness Week challenge & get your student entered to win a \$25 gift card to Jimmy Johns, YUM! [ENTER HERE!](#)

Box Tops



***BONUS BOX TOPS earnings at TARGET this month! See the app for details.

If you haven't, please download the Box Tops for Education app and scan your grocery receipts after you shop! The app identifies eligible products and automatically adds Box Tops to your school's earnings online. Even if you're shopping online or doing grocery pickup, you can still submit your e-receipts and earn Box Tops. If you are struggling to remember to scan your receipts, go to the communication settings under your account and set up scan reminders, you can customize them to match your shopping routine!

You can view a list of participating products here:

<https://www.boxtops4education.com/Participating-Products-Page>

We received \$342 from Box Tops from the first semester. We would love to exceed that amount for the second semester so please download the app and scan those receipts. It's an incredibly easy way to help support our Cherry Tree teachers and students!

SPIRIT SHOP STILL OPEN!



There is plenty of inventory left and even some styles on sale! Spirit items make great gifts for birthdays or incoming Kindergarteners!

Check out www.ctespiritshop.com for long-sleeve shirts, sweatshirts and even adult styles!

POPs Wants YOU!

POPS is an energetic group of male parents/guardians that plan, support and volunteer at various CTE and PTO events throughout the year. It's flexible and fun - all are welcome and no cost to join!

Email David Glenn with questions or to sign up at dglenniu@gmail.com.

Don't forget: you must have a criminal history check (CHC) on file. A link to the online CHC application and more information can be found on the CTE PTO website at <https://www.ccs.k12.in.us/pto-cte/volunteer>.

~ INFO ~
**Media Center
Volunteers
Needed**



Hello all parents of Patriots!! Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity at school second semester? The media center is looking for volunteers to help the kids and Mrs Lima. Volunteer hours for the morning are either 8 -10am or 9 -11am. Our greatest need will be in the afternoon from 11:40-1:40pm when the kindergartners and first graders will be in the Media Center.

For more info you can email Melissa Putts at melissaputts@yahoo.com, Megan Droste at medroste@gmail.com or simply [click](#) on the google form to submit your request to volunteer. Thank you! *Background check required*

**Treasurer's
Report**



Learn more about how your PTO dollars were used last month to enhance the student experience at CTE by visiting the PTO's budget documents on our website. The monthly report can be found [HERE](#) under the Treasury Summaries.



We continue our great efforts at Cherry Tree to raise productive and safe digital citizens! Please see the linked family resource from Common Sense Media. These are great resources!

[Control Your Phone. Don't Let It Control You](#)

~ INFO ~
**CCS Covid
Page**



Find all CCS Covid information [HERE](#)



**CARMEL CLAY
SCHOOLS**
TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE



Please ask yourself these 4 screener questions:

- 1) In the last 24 hours have you had a fever or chills and/or taken medication for a fever? (If you are unsure, please utilize a thermometer for an accurate reading. A temperature of 100.4 or higher constitutes a fever according to medical professionals)
- 2) Do you have COVID-19 symptoms such as new, uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing, sore throat, diarrhea/vomiting, or loss of taste or smell?
- 3) In the past 14 days have you been in close contact (was within 6 feet for longer than 15 minutes without protective equipment) with a person known/suspected to have COVID-19 and/or have you been diagnosed with COVID-19?
- 4) Have you or anyone in your household been tested for COVID-19 and are still awaiting test results?

If the answer to question #4 is YES---Please do not send your student(s) to school.
If you or anyone in your household is being tested or waiting on results, your student
MUST quarantine until results are received.

~ INFO ~
Stopit App

Click on the [link](#) for the newest "Stopit App" information. The code to use is **CTECARES**