



## Thank You VETERANS

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



*Our PK-12 students, faculty and staff recognized our local Veterans and guests at an assembly and after our Student Council members served them breakfast.*

### Sr. Citizen Dinner

Student Council is sponsoring their annual Senior Citizen Holiday Dinner on Wednesday, December 4, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. For reservations please contact Mrs. Carson in the District Office at 607-264-9332, ext. 501.



### KISS Sale

The Foreign Language Club Annual Christmas KISS sale will be held from Nov. 18 - Dec 6. Request an order form from your child's teacher after November 18. Cost will be \$.50 per kiss gram.

# Superintendent's MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As we approach Thanksgiving, it's a time to reflect on all the blessings in our lives. We are so fortunate to have a beautiful school, a faculty and staff who care deeply about our students, and a community that supports education. I hope you enjoy a joyful Thanksgiving with family and friends and have the opportunity to reflect on your own blessings.

The Junior Drama Club is performing *The Jungle Book*, our fall soccer teams competed in Sectionals, the FFA held their first big fundraiser at the Farm Toy Show, and our music students are preparing for their Winter Concerts. In the classrooms, students continue to expand their curiosity and learn how to be good citizens. CV-S is moving and grooving, as they say!

We are also excited to announce that for the 2024-25 school year, Ms. Davidson in the cafeteria has secured a grant that will provide all elementary students (grades PK-6) with a healthy snack of fresh fruits and vegetables. This initiative will introduce students to a variety of foods they may not have had the chance to try before. Additionally, we are proud to share that we are one of only sixteen schools to receive the NYS Farm-to-School grant. This grant aims to help schools connect with local farmers, increase the use of locally grown food on school menus, and improve student health—while providing increased economic benefits to New

York's farmers. Kudos to Ms. Davidson for her hard work in securing this wonderful opportunity for our students!

We continue to use ParentSquare as our primary communication tool, along with our website and Facebook page. We are thrilled that 5-week progress reports and secondary report cards have been sent securely via ParentSquare, and elementary parent-teacher conferences are being scheduled through this platform as well, with report cards delivered in the same manner.

**Capital Project Update:** All paperwork has been submitted to the State Education Department (SED), and we are currently awaiting approval. We hope to go out to bid in March, with work beginning in late June.

As the holidays approach, we have several exciting events coming up. Our Winter Concerts are scheduled for December 4 and 12th, and basketball season kicks off for the Varsity Girls on November 29 at the Schoharie Tournament. The JV and Varsity Boys will play at home on December 3. We encourage you to come out and support our students!

Wishing you all a wonderful Thanksgiving and a joyful holiday season ahead.

Be well,

*TheriJo Snyder, Superintendent*



On Friday, September 27, thirty-two 6th grade students were inducted in Safety Patrol during the Elementary morning program. Janet Brown, AAA Public Affairs Specialist and Deputy Kubis of Otsego County Sheriff Department were on hand to administer the oath and install the members. Congratulations to Captain Addison Shaffer, Lieutenants Stella Zigon and Emma Rockwell and Sergeants Paige Thayer and Jaylinn Sklenner and members of the 2024-2025 CV-S Safety Patrol.



# Counseling Office News

We are fortunate enough to have a nationally recognized financial aid expert that will be sharing her expertise with students and parents via zoom on November 21 at 6:00 p.m.

Below is the link to the Zoom session

<https://ucdenver.zoom.us/j/99233310992>

**Dr. Dawn Patak** is a financial aid professional with over 25 years of experience. Dawn began her career as a financial aid counselor at Alfred University. Over the years, she ascended the ranks, moving into assistant and associate director positions at Keuka College, the University of Rochester, and Hobart and William Smith Colleges. Dawn worked as a consultant with Financial Aid Services in 2016-17 and 2021-22 in between permanent positions as Director of Financial Aid at Finger Lakes Community College, Baltimore City Community College, and Hobart and William Smith Colleges. In August of 2023, Dawn rejoined Financial Aid Services as a consultant.

Dr. Patak understands the complexities of institutional, program, and student financial aid eligibility. Dawn is known for her expertise in helping families better understand the FAFSA and CSS Profile applications and complete them accurately.

Dr. Patak holds a Bachelor of Science in Economics and Management Science from State University of New York (SUNY) Cortland and a Master of Science in Education in College Student Development from Alfred University. In May of 2023 she finished her Doctor of Education in Leadership for Educational Equity, Higher Education at the University of Colorado Denver.

## Topics to discuss:

- FSA ID and password creation
- FAFSA opening date
- FAFSA Completion
- Federal Aid programs
- NYS Aid programs
- Special Circumstances
- Financial Aid Dos and Don'ts

## STUDENTS SUFFERING FROM DIGITAL OVERLOAD?

Research leaves no doubt: cell phones and social media harm youth mental health and academics.



### 20 MINUTES

The time it takes for students to regain focus after a nearby cellphone distraction

*\*2023 UNESCO Study*



### 15 POINTS

The decrease in scores of mathematics students when distracted by phones

*\*PISA (2022)*



### 3 HOURS

The daily social media use that doubles anxiety and depression risks among youth

*\*US Surgeon General, 2024*



### 68 PERCENT

The percentage of students who report that electronic devices are distracting

*\*NIH Study, 2017*

# From the Nurses Office



Flu season is upon us as well as several other illnesses we are seeing.

You can help keep your child and others well by reminding your children to use respiratory etiquette.

Respiratory Etiquette made simple:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper arm, not your hands.
- Put your used tissues in a wastebasket.
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water, especially after blowing the nose and or using a tissue when coughing or sneezing. Please remind students of the steps below.
- Stay home if you think you have the flu, especially if you have a fever.



If your child does not know how to blow their nose, please help them learn before they become sick and congested. Here are two ways that you can practice this.

First you can do this by holding a tissue about 1-2 inches in front of their nose and asking them to blow through their nose, while keeping their mouth closed, to see how far they can make it move. Slowly move the tissue further away.

Another technique is to see how much they can fog a mirror with their mouth closed and blow as hard as they can out of both nostrils or one at a time as they improve.

It is so helpful for students to know how to do this to help themselves feel better, sleep better and prevent the spread of infection. Thank you for your assistance with this.



## Concert Etiquette

Our winter concerts will be held on December 4 and 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium.

In an attempt to help family and friends enjoy concerts, as well as making it easier for our featured performers to do their best on stage, the following suggestions are offered.

PLEASE make an effort to be settled in your seats before the concert begins. Make sure all restroom needs (especially for young children) are taken care of ahead of time. Turn off all cell phones, beepers, watches and any other electronic devices.

Talking during the performance is disrespectful to the performers as well as distracting to others in the audience. In fact, any excessive movement or commotion can be a source of irritation to others who wish to listen and concentrate on the performance.



## Club Visit

On October 24, our fourth grade students received individual copies of A Student's Dictionary today, courtesy of the Canajoharie-Fort Plain Elks #2621. We appreciate the continued generosity of the Elks Club in donating this gift to our school!



## Advanced Coursework Notification

The purpose of this page is to inform you of the benefits and opportunities for your child to participate in advanced coursework.

While advanced coursework provides an opportunity for your child to gain skills and demonstrate competencies at a higher level, advanced coursework provides other benefits as well. Other benefits of participation in advanced coursework may include:

- improving a student's self-confidence and image of self.
- demonstrating a student's preparedness for college-level coursework.
- earning college credit(s) before graduation.
- reducing future costs for higher education.
- reducing the time the student must spend in secondary and/or post-secondary school.

The advanced courses offered in middle school and high school at Cherry Valley - Springfield Central School in grades 7-12 include:

### English:

- English 9 Honors
- English 10 Honors
- English 11 Honors
- AP Language and Composition
- AP Literature and Composition

### Math:

- Algebra 1 – Accelerated (8th Grade)
- Geometry Honors

- Algebra 2 Honors
- College Precalculus
- College Calculus
- College Contemporary Math

### Science:

- Honors Biology (8th Grade)
- Earth and Space Science Honors
- College Biology
- College Physics

### Social Studies:

- Global History Honors
- College U.S. History 1 & 2

### World Language:

- Accelerated Spanish 1 (8th grade)
- College Spanish 1 & 2

### Art

- Honors Studio Art (8th Grade)
- College Drawing

It is anticipated that these courses will be available to your child in the 2025-2026 school year. Prerequisite information, and eligibility information for the above courses can be found in this document. Please be aware that the availability of course offerings is contingent upon budget approval and availability of qualified staffing.

Our school provides the following support to help students succeed in advanced courses:

- Accelerated Courses: Courses in accelerated pathways expose students to concepts at a faster pace and content above grade level. This prepares students for the rigor of future honors courses by exposing them to advanced content and higher-order thinking skills.
- Extra Help: Teachers in all content areas in grades 7-12 are available to meet with students during Office Hours, or by appointment for extra help to assist students with concept or skill development in their current courses.
- Academic Advising and Counseling: Counselors can meet with families to help students set goals, create action plans, and receive guidance on course selection to ensure they are on track for honors classes.
- Peer Study Groups: Students are encouraged to form peer study groups. This can foster collaborative learning and help students understand challenging material through discussion and explanation.
- Test Preparation: Opportunities are offered throughout the school year that specifically prepare students for standardized tests (e.g., Regents Review classes, AP review classes, SAT Prep, etc.). Participating in these can improve students' test-taking skills and boost their confidence.



## Cookies & Cocoa

PTO will once again be sponsoring "Cookies and Cocoa" this December. We would appreciate donations of hot cocoa canisters, and packages of cookies for this event. If you would rather make a monetary donation, we would gladly do the shopping! Please coordinate your donations with Ginger Thayer so we can ensure we have enough of everything. Email or call and let Ginger know what you are willing to provide. As always, we appreciate your support!

# Welcome to CV-S!



## **Sarah Paradiso**

Hello Parents/Guardians and Students!

My name is Sarah Paradiso and I am the new 7th grade Special Education teacher. I have certifications in Social Studies, English, and Special Education for grades 7-12.

I am currently pursuing a masters degree in Educational Technology and Learning Design through SUNY Empire State. I have had many experiences in the classroom setting and working with students with a variety of needs. During my free time I love to read, enjoy the outdoors, go for runs, or workout. I have played volleyball through college and enjoy coaching different sports. I look forward to continuing to work with our students to help them reach their highest potential. I hope to continue to foster a strong relationship between the community of the student and the school. It truly does take a village for student success! Feel free to email or message me on ParentSquare with any questions or concerns.



## **Amanda Thomas**

I am a lifelong resident of New York. As a child I started showing AQHA horses and continue to show them all over the country. I have always wanted to be an elementary teacher for as long as I can remember. After graduating from Mount

Markham I attended Herkimer College and Cazenovia College. My mantra in life is to be kind to others. A hero of mine is Beezy Madden, an Olympic Champion.



## **Stephanie Spencer**

My name is Stephanie Spencer and I am the Occupational Therapist at Cherry Valley Springfield Central School. I live in Richfield Springs with my husband and our 16 year old twins, Max and Sophia. My son needed Occupational Therapy when he was in preschool. This was a new field to me as I was just entering into my master's program for education. Through his therapy services I discovered a field that I knew I would love! I find my own experience with my son needing occupational therapy services helpful in my practice. I know as a parent how I felt knowing my son needed Occupational Therapy and not knowing exactly what that meant for him. I share my story with parents and can completely empathize with them. Pediatric occupational therapy is such a meaningful and impactful field, especially with the positive changes it brings to children's lives. Pediatric/school based occupational therapy focuses on helping children develop the skills they need for daily life activities, play, learning, and overall development. I worked in public schools for the past 8 years. The faculty and staff at Cherry Valley Springfield school have been extremely helpful and supportive! Changing school districts can be stressful, however this has been such a positive change for me. I look forward to my years at Cherry Valley Springfield Central School!



## **Christine Johnson**

My name is Christine Johnson and this is my first year teaching at CVS CSD. I was working with Kindergarten to Second grade learners. I am now working with the sixth grade students.

I have taught 2nd, 3rd and 4th grade in the past and am enjoying working with the K-2 students and the 6th grade in this area. My husband and I live in Duanesburg, NY and just had our 3rd daughter graduate from High School in June. We are getting used to not having any children at home for several months while they are working and/ or attending college. My hobbies include swimming, reading and gardening. I look forward to meeting people in this area in the next several months.

**WELCOME  
TO THE  
TEAM**





### Mark Hitt

Hello and thank you for welcoming me into your community! My name is Mark Hitt, and I'll be joining the Cherry Valley Springfield team as a science teacher. I have a strong scientific back-

ground, having a Masters of Science in Chemistry and having worked in research prior to becoming a teacher. I've spent the past several years bringing science to life for students from middle to high school. This year I'm especially looking forward to teaching Earth and Space Sciences for the first time and sharing my passion for understanding our universe with my students.

My teaching philosophy is centered around curiosity and hands-on learning. In my classroom students engage in activities and labs that encourage critical thinking, problem-solving, and real-world application of scientific concepts. My goal is to foster a learning environment where students feel inspired to explore, ask questions and make discoveries that extend beyond the classroom. Outside of school I enjoy hiking, fishing, soccer, baseball, and reading. I'm thrilled to be part of the Cherry Valley-Springfield community and look forward to an exciting school year ahead.



### Ryan Johnston

Hello, everyone!

My name is Ryan Johnston, and I'm excited to be the new middle school science and physics teacher here at Cherry Valley - Springfield.

I recently graduated from

Binghamton University, where I earned my Master's in Adolescent Science Education and my undergraduate degree in Physics, along with completing my student teaching. Over the past few years, I've had the opportunity to work in a variety of school districts, where I gained experience working with students of all ages, from kindergarteners to seniors, through both substituting and assisting in the classroom.

This year, I also volunteered as the assistant coach for the boys' modified soccer team, which was a fantastic experience and a great way to connect with students outside of class. Originally from Old Forge, NY, I love spending my free time outdoors, catching up on TV shows, and discovering new music. I look forward to an exciting year ahead and am thrilled to be part of this wonderful school community!



## Senior Recognition

*Congratulations to our seniors!*

### Varsity Girls:

*Brin Whiteman, Kyra Druse, Sydney Buck*

### Varsity Boys:

*Kris Cade, Alex Rockwell, Tyler Houk*



*Elementary students enjoying their fresh fruits and veggies snacks.*

# Elementary Positive Patriots & Golden Essentials

For our monthly Community Meeting, each classroom teacher selects a student who demonstrates the CV-S Core Values of Power in Positivity; Respect; More Grit; and Do the Right Thing as well as other character traits from the Positivity Project. Congratulations to the following elementary students on being named Positive Patriots for October 2024.

## Positive Patriots October 2024

|                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Adelisa Wolfert</i>   | <i>Greyson Leavitt</i>  |
| <i>Arabella Anderson</i> | <i>Margeret Wolfert</i> |
| <i>Porter Fassett</i>    | <i>Gialiyah Young</i>   |
| <i>Gertie Fassett</i>    | <i>Olivia Kerzick</i>   |
| <i>Sarah Rood</i>        | <i>Rylie Butts</i>      |
| <i>Emma Dawson</i>       | <i>Addison Shaffer</i>  |
| <i>Zander Brown</i>      | <i>Luke Rathbun</i>     |

Each Essentials teacher also selects a class for the Golden Essential award. Congratulations to the following classes for earning the award for October!

## Golden Essentials October 2024

|                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Music</b>           | Mrs. Fassett    |
| <b>Art</b>             | Mrs. All        |
| <b>Library</b>         | Mrs. Licenziato |
| <b>STEM PK-2</b>       | Mrs. Cohn       |
| <b>STEM 3-6</b>        | Ms. Horne       |
| <b>Health</b>          | Mrs. Lowry      |
| <b>PE-Mrs. Pierce</b>  | Miss Thomas     |
| <b>PE-Mr. Whiteman</b> | Mrs. Lusk       |

# Honor ROLL

| Student                           | Grade |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| <i>Bishop, Payton</i>             | 7     |
| <i>Campbell Sullivan, Timothy</i> | 7     |
| <i>Fox, Trevor</i>                | 7     |
| <i>Garlock, Sierra</i>            | 7     |
| <i>Nemo, Amelia</i>               | 7     |
| <i>Reckeweg, Kristin</i>          | 7     |
| <i>Ritch, Brett</i>               | 7     |
| <i>Rood, Kaylie</i>               | 7     |
| <i>Weaver, Iaan</i>               | 7     |
| <i>Yacobucci, Sawyer</i>          | 7     |
| <i>Anderson, Julian</i>           | 8     |
| <i>Leavitt, Kimberli</i>          | 8     |
| <i>Miller, Thomas</i>             | 8     |
| <i>Pendelton, Warren</i>          | 8     |
| <i>Schmidt, Lailajune</i>         | 8     |
| <i>Snyder, Amanda</i>             | 8     |
| <i>Hoag, Duke</i>                 | 9     |
| <i>Jorgensen, Ascher</i>          | 9     |
| <i>Worden, Collin</i>             | 9     |
| <i>Bennett, Dakota</i>            | 10    |
| <i>Frasier, Hunter</i>            | 10    |
| <i>Hurley, Vincent</i>            | 10    |
| <i>Jurutka, Jackilyn-Grace</i>    | 10    |
| <i>Maine, Natalie</i>             | 10    |
| <i>Morrison, Noah</i>             | 10    |
| <i>Nemo, Isabella</i>             | 10    |
| <i>Aramini, Gianna</i>            | 11    |
| <i>Birch, Zachary</i>             | 11    |
| <i>Bosc, Aiden</i>                | 11    |
| <i>Cade, Kristopher</i>           | 12    |
| <i>Dawson, Lyla</i>               | 12    |
| <i>Falkowski IV, John</i>         | 12    |
| <i>Moyer, Jackson</i>             | 12    |
| <i>Reyes, Leonel</i>              | 12    |
| <i>Rockwell, Austin</i>           | 12    |
| <i>Valentine, Chloe</i>           | 12    |



# Principal's LIST

| Student                   | Grade |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Bennett, Isabella         | 7     |
| Beront, Adele             | 7     |
| Burgher, Jacob            | 7     |
| Coveny, Alexa             | 7     |
| DeHond, Ethan             | 7     |
| Eissler, Blake            | 7     |
| Hotaling-VanBuren, Alexis | 7     |
| Jicha, Gianna             | 7     |
| Kerzick, Jocelyn          | 7     |
| Lusk, Melanie             | 7     |
| Murray, Gabriella         | 7     |
| Smith, Skyler             | 7     |
| Waterfield, Cora          | 7     |
| Abdallah, Lyla            | 8     |
| Brumleve, Kadence         | 8     |
| Carley, Brandon           | 8     |
| Crews, Natalee            | 8     |
| Ellis, Vivianna           | 8     |
| Finch, Justeena           | 8     |
| Haig, Gavin               | 8     |
| Harris, Jillian           | 8     |
| Houk, Alexiona            | 8     |
| Hribar, Cole              | 8     |
| Lusk, Bailea              | 8     |
| Lusk, Corbin              | 8     |
| Redden, James K           | 8     |
| Rockwell, Landon          | 8     |
| Tracy, Levi               | 8     |
| Abdallah, Samar           | 9     |
| Ackerman, Allison         | 9     |
| Barown, Heath             | 9     |
| Butts, Matti              | 9     |

| Student             | Grade |
|---------------------|-------|
| Cade, Hunter        | 9     |
| Constable, Zaniel   | 9     |
| Dornburgh, Angelika | 9     |
| Erkson, Colin       | 9     |
| Field, Abigail      | 9     |
| Fox, Emily          | 9     |
| Gridley, Oliver     | 9     |
| Haig, Logan         | 9     |
| Kretser, Kaitlyn    | 9     |
| McGovern, Mackenzie | 9     |
| Monser, Austin      | 9     |
| Pokorny, Lucas      | 9     |
| Rockwell, Logan     | 9     |
| Rockwell, Sophia    | 9     |
| Royce, Darin        | 9     |
| Shaffer, Curtis     | 9     |
| Sheldon, Ethan      | 9     |
| Aramini, Macon      | 10    |
| Bard, Liliana       | 10    |
| Bennett, Maddox     | 10    |
| Canary, Ava         | 10    |
| Dresser, Hadlei     | 10    |
| Duncan, Brian       | 10    |
| Gray, Destiny       | 10    |
| Hickling, Ayden     | 10    |
| Laymon, Caden       | 10    |
| Lusk Jr., Brian     | 10    |
| Rathbun, Jossalynn  | 10    |
| Rockwell, Savannah  | 10    |
| Williams, Annabelle | 10    |
| All, Ethan          | 11    |
| Baker, Anna         | 11    |

| Student             | Grade |
|---------------------|-------|
| Barnes, Trace       | 11    |
| Barown, Graham      | 11    |
| Dygert Jr., Marvin  | 11    |
| Glowicki, Raymond   | 11    |
| Jorgensen, Ashton   | 11    |
| Lusk, Andrew        | 11    |
| McCord, Madelynn    | 11    |
| Sheldon, Hannah     | 11    |
| Stannard, Ethan     | 11    |
| Tripple, Adrianna   | 11    |
| Ward, Madison       | 11    |
| Bard, Hayden        | 12    |
| Beauregard, River   | 12    |
| Buck, Sydney        | 12    |
| Canary, Charlise    | 12    |
| Carley, Katelyn     | 12    |
| Cortese, Sara       | 12    |
| Decker, Hannah      | 12    |
| Dixon, Julissa      | 12    |
| Frasier, Jacob      | 12    |
| Gridley, Jonathan   | 12    |
| Harrington, Lucas   | 12    |
| Lusk, Caraline      | 12    |
| Meade, Karsin       | 12    |
| Munson, Matthew     | 12    |
| O'Neill, Faustin    | 12    |
| Oram, Abigail       | 12    |
| Rockwell, Alexander | 12    |
| Rockwell, Caleb     | 12    |
| Rood, Maddison      | 12    |
| Scherer, Daniel     | 12    |
| Whiteman, Brin      | 12    |

# PTO News

A big thank you to Limespring Farm for providing pumpkins and creating a magical pumpkin patch for all elementary students to pick their very own pumpkin from. A thank you to our PTO for buying sticker faces so every student could decorate the pumpkin they picked from the patch.



On November 18, CV-S will welcome author Brian Yanish who will spend the day conducting workshops “that inspire children to see the creative potential in everyday junk.” This author visit is being completely funded and sponsored by the PTO. Look for a complete write-up in our next newsletter about Brian’s visit.



The PTO sponsored Scholastic Book Fair will be held December 2 through December 6. As always, we will be looking for volunteers to help us run this book fair. We will need volunteers Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday that week. Shifts are 8 a.m.-11:30 a.m., and 11:30 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. each day. Please reach out to Ginger Thayer ([gthayer@cvsd.org](mailto:gthayer@cvsd.org) or 607-264-3265 x510), if you are willing to help out. Thank you!

This year CV-S welcomed 14 new Pre-K students in September. The PTO was able to provide each student with a T-Shirt, welcoming our newest CV-S Patriots to our school. We hope that our Pre-K students are learning to love school, and enjoying all of the fun activities that they do every day.



Pre-K would like to thank the PTO for sponsoring our class t-shirts! Every student in Pre-K received a "New To The Pre-K Pack" t-shirt as a way to welcome our newest members of the Cherry Valley-Springfield school community! We look forward to an awesome school year!



# SPIRIT BLANKET FUNDRAISER ORDER FORM

FUNDRAISER  
BLANKETS.com

\$25



Please support our school by buying a blanket, we profit over 50% with each blanket sale!

Spread school spirit while raising money!  
Return the form below with cash, OR check (made payable to CV-S PTO)

Student Name:

Teacher Name:

Quantity:

Total Included:

Return to school - Attention Ginger Thayer PTO

# Sports News

## Soccer

Congratulations to the Girls' and Boys' Varsity soccer teams for their Sectional runs.



## Tri-Valley League All-Stars

**Girls:** Mackenzy McGovern 1st team, Brin Whiteman & Kyra Druse Honorable Mention

**Boys:** Kris Cade 1st team

## Scholar-Athlete Teams

Both the Varsity Girls and Boys soccer teams earned Scholar-Athlete Team status. Congratulations!

**Varsity Girls:** 94.84 Bailey Thayer, Mackenzie McGovern, Jossy Rathbun, Allie Ackerman, Brin Whiteman, Sydney Buck, Adrianna Tripple, Emily Fox

**Varsity Boys:** 93.36 Jacob Lusk, Alex Rockwell, Ray Glowicki, Macon Aramini, Graham Barown, Andrew Lusk, Brian Duncan



## Basketball Schedules

Basketball game schedules can be found under Schedule Galaxy along with practice schedules. Go to link on the school website [www.cvscs.org](http://www.cvscs.org) under the Athletics tab or [www.schedulegalaxy.com](http://www.schedulegalaxy.com)





## Art Room News

The beginning of the year brought together a combination of all grade levels into the high school Drawing class. It was a great opportunity to meet new people while making art together. Students studied the line drawings of an optical illusion artist and then made larger than life drawings in small groups. It was amazing to see students encouraging one another and making suggestions about how to successfully complete their pieces! The finished artwork transformed the hallway while representing our collaborative classroom.



Representatives from the Rural Health Council conducted teen Mental Health First Aid (tMHFA) training for the 10th grade class in September. This is an evidence-based training that teaches teens in grades 10-12, or ages 15-18, how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges in their friends and peers. The training gives teens the skills they need to have supportive conversations with their friends and emphasizes the importance of getting help from a responsible and trusted adult.



# English Department Field Trips!

SUNY Cobleskill, Cobleskill, NY: On October 10, The students in Mr. Rhodes and Mrs. Wathen's senior English classes took a field trip to Van Wagenen Library at The State University of New York at Cobleskill to do research for their senior research projects. The students were able to search the "stacks" and databases for sources and work with college librarians to research their projects. The students also took a tour of the campus where they visited the college's facilities and met many of the animals that live on campus. It was a valuable and productive day!



*The Seniors at Van Wagenen Library, Cobleskill, NY.*



*Lucas Harrington and Matthew Munson meet "Ferris Bueller" the pig.*



*Hannah Decker pets a friendly goat.*



*The seniors pet and feed goats in the college's barn.*

Teen Safety Summit, Utica, NY: On October 29, Cherry Valley-Springfield Driver Education Instructor, Mr. Rhodes took members of SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions), Student Council, and the SAVE Promise Club to the Teen Safety Summit at the Nexus Center in Utica, NY. The event featured presentations from representatives of AAA Northeast, the Oneida Sheriff's Department, the NYS Police, the Utica Fire Department, and the NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee on the subject of safe driving. Students watched a roll-over demonstration, a live extrication demonstration, and met adults that were personally affected by reckless driving. The event was also featured on WKTV NewsChannel 2 in Utica.



*Cherry Valley-Springfield students watch a live "extrication demonstration" where firefighters use the "jaws of life" to open a vehicle that was damaged in a crash.*



*Cherry Valley-Springfield students by the stage of the event. Left to Right: Charlise Canary, Maddison Rood, Adrianna Tripple, Abigail Oram, Ava Canary, Hannah Sheldon, Sara Cortese, Ethan All, Graham Barown (not pictured: Madison Ward, Anna Baker, and Gianna Aramini).*



# Halloween Parade





# Fire Safety Day 2024



We were happy to collaborate once again with our local fire departments for Fire Safety Awareness! On October 4, volunteers from the South Minden; Cherry Valley; Springfield; and Middlefield fire departments spent the morning with our elementary students. Students learned what EDITH means and reviewed safety procedures in the event of an emergency in their homes. The highlight of the morning was the opportunity to explore the equipment and rigs used by the fire departments!



# Stick Stem ~ PreK-2

Our PreK through second grade students have been busy building, creating, and playing with sticks during their weekly STEM class. It began with the first graders hiking up to the school nature trails to collect sticks and it blossomed from there. While at the STEM room science table students learned about habitats and built all sorts of birds nests from the sticks. The technology station was spread throughout the classroom floor as students created giant mazes out of sticks, a great introduction into future coding projects. They also put their gross motor skills to the test as they had to navigate forwards and backwards through the mazes. Our future engineers were busy constructing hammock stands, not an easy task with sticks as your main material. Loads of measurements were being taken at our math table as students lined the sticks up in size order and

measured the length of each stick, the younger grades using one inch square tiles to complete the task, while the older students used rulers to measure in inches or centimeters. And that was only one week! If you had visited our room the previous week, you would have seen even more activities using sticks. Students were making musical instruments out of sticks, playing games like tic-tac-toe and pick-up sticks, constructing sturdy rafts, building animal shelters, and creating numbers and math equations using sticks. Who knew you could do so much with sticks!

Right now the students are in the midst of using nature as an inspiration in the design process and this will transition nicely into our Biomimicry Unit. It's always so much fun witnessing the excitement and listening to all of the students as they enthusiastically share their ideas and creations.

