

From the desk of the Principal:

It's hard to believe that the 2011 - 2012 school year is already here and underway! The teachers and I are very happy to be back in school and it's so good to see everyone again! We have four new staff members on the CTK team this year...**Mr. Griffin** (7th & 8th grade Math), **Mr. Sullivan** (6th grade Religion, Science, & Social Studies), **Mrs. Strominger** (Spanish), and **Mrs. Conway** (Art). We also have a returning teacher joining the CTK team again...**Mrs. Rieselman** is back and will be teaching 2nd grade. Welcome to all our new team members!!!

You may have noticed that this year we're bringing all students into the building each morning through the front school doors. The middle school doors are now alarmed and will be used only as emergency doors. This has been done in order to strengthen the overall security of the building. So far, things are working out very well.

Just a few reminders about morning drop-off...please drop your child off at school no earlier than 7:40 a.m. when outside teacher supervision begins and make sure your child is in the building no later than 7:55 a.m. when the tardy bell sounds. At drop-off, please pull all the way forward in the drop-off line and have your child(ren) exit only on the passenger side of the vehicle so they don't have to cross through the traffic lane. And, while we welcome parents to walk their children in this first week of school, we now need you to let your student to walk in by themselves as this encourages independence on the child's part and allows the school day to begin without interruption.

I want to thank one of our parents, Nancy Cubrich, for doing such a fantastic job maintaining the flower beds and the plants around the school grounds over the summer. Everything looks beautiful! Thank you Nancy!!!

As we begin the new school year, the teachers and I are committed to providing the very best Catholic education to each and every CTK student, to challenge each student in reaching their full spiritual and academic potential, and to provide each student with the solid social and academic skills necessary for success in the future. The teachers and I are very excited about this school year and have many new improvements to implement. I've listed a few of these below:

Shurley English

We piloted Shurley English in both of our 1st and one of our 5th grade classes last year and saw such tremendous gains in student grammar skills. Because of this, we're expanding the Shurley English program and will be using it in all 1st through 6th grade classes this year. Shurley English is a very dynamic program designed to teach students solid grammar skills that they'll use each day in reading, writing, and spelling. We're very excited about expanding the use of this educational program in our school!

Differentiated Instruction

All CTK teachers will continue to expand the use of Differentiated Instruction within each classroom for 2011 – 2012. Differentiated Instruction is a proven teaching method that provides a very challenging academic environment for all students. It enables CTK teachers to enrich every student within the regular classroom and to take students to the highest level possible. The differentiated classroom provides a setting where each student can succeed and excel. It takes into consideration the personal strengths, interests, and learning preferences of each student and provides an environment where students can become confident learners, make connections with others, and become more independent. Differentiation focuses on high expectations and high standards for all.

Eight of our staff members attended the **Differentiated Instruction Conference** this summer and brought back some wonderful ideas and strategies to use school-wide. Differentiated Instruction has already made a significant difference at CTK and students will continue to benefit and increase their academic strength through the use of Differentiated Instruction with each passing school year!

Middle School Math Program

Last year, we piloted the "Math Lab" concept in two of our 7th and 8th grade classes. This added extra math periods into the schedule and provided students with guided practice sessions in order to practice math problems to support concepts learned during regular daily math periods. The Math Lab also enabled students to extend their learning by providing opportunities to work on solving higher level challenge problems. This year, we're expanding the Math Lab into all 7th and 8th grade classes...all 7th and 8th grade students will now have two Math Lab periods per week, essentially providing them with seven math periods per week instead of the normal five. 6th grade students will also use the Math Lab concept, but their Math Lab time will be incorporated into their regular math periods.

In addition to the Math Lab expansion, all 6th and 7th grade students will now be required to take one of several Pre-Algebra level courses as their math class. In order to make this possible, we've purchased a new series of math textbooks and have divided the Pre-Algebra portion of our middle school math program into three different Pre-Algebra courses. Students in the 8th grade will still have the opportunity to take Algebra 1 as their math class. 4th and 5th grade teachers will be stepping up their math programs this year to ensure that all 4th and 5th grade students are well prepared for Pre-Algebra when they reach middle school. We know that these changes will impact our students in a very positive way and will ensure continued success in math!

Social Expectations and Basic Academic Expectations

This year, students in kindergarten through 8th grade will be learning and practicing specific Social and Basic Academic Expectations for their particular grade level. These expectations will be added to the report card and students will work to become proficient on each expectation throughout the school year. The expectations will enable CTK students to improve key social skills and also help them sharpen basic academic skills related to organization, note-taking, and studying.

Other Areas...

Other areas will continue to grow at CTK this year too. We've expanded the **school technology program** to include **keyboarding** instruction for intermediate elementary students, increased the middle school technology class time to three times per week, and completed a total **remodel of the computer lab**. The **Academic Focus Room** has been expanded to help students improve study habits and academic grades and will now serve students in grades 4th – 8th, and we'll continue our focus in all grade levels on improving student **writing, higher level thinking, and application of concepts**. Teachers will continue to meet in **Professional Conversation Teams** on a monthly basis to discuss and explore ways to keep all CTK programs strong and improving. This year is going to be a fantastic school year!

God Bless and thanks for all your wonderful support!
Chris Segrell, Principal

Calendar at a Glance

<p>Monday, August 22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15 AM Mass Gr. 3-5 (5B) 9-9:30 AM MCS Band Presentation for 5th & 6th graders 	<p>Tuesday, August 23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15 AM Mass Gr. 6-8 (8AD) 7 PM Parents Club Mtg. —Parish Center (PC) 	<p>Wednesday, August 24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15 AM Mass Gr. K-2 (2B) 3:30-4:30 PM MCS Open House-Libr (for interested 5-8th grade students) 	<p>Thursday, August 25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SPIRIT DAY! All may wear jeans! Gr. K-5 wear Purple or Gold shirts / Gr. 6-8 wear House shirts 	<p>Friday, August 26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15 AM All School Mass (8BC) 1 PM Fall Festival Raffle Kick-off-Gym
<p>Monday, August 29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15 AM Mass Gr. 3-5 (4B) 	<p>Tuesday, August 30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15 AM Mass Gr. 6-8 (7AB) 	<p>Wednesday, August 31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15 AM Mass Gr. K-2 (2A) 	<p>Thursday, September 1</p>	<p>Friday, September 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15 AM All School Mass (5A)

SCHOOL NEWS

CTK WEEKLY UPDATE

The CTK Weekly Update is our school newsletter that is produced on a weekly basis AND contains important information as it relates to the happenings of our school. An e-mail notice will be sent home on Friday's advising that the update has been uploaded to the CTK website along with the link. If it is a shortened school-week, no update will be produced. If you have any questions regarding information that is contained in this newsletter, please contact the school office. Weekly updates can always be found on our CTK website at www.ctkomaha.org.

If you are interested in having something published in the update (school related only), items can be sent to Mrs. Andrews at andrewsc@ctkomaha.org by Thursday at noon. All requests will be pre-approved by the principal prior to being added.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS

If you are planning to assist in any volunteer capacity at the school or parish, including coaching, attending field trips or working in the school, you **MUST** take the Safe Environment training class. The Archdiocese mandates that any person working with children have this training. Cost is \$12. For volunteers new to CTK, the initial class is approximately 2 hours and classes can be found at www.archomaha.com under *Safe Environment*. Many classes are offered at this time of the year at area parishes and we encourage you to sign up now. Certifications last 5 years.

If you were previously certified and your training is due to expire soon (many are, due to the numbers certified at this same time a few years ago) you can renew your certification online (in your own home!) at the website listed above. Re-certifications take about an hour, and you will need to print paperwork at the very end. Paperwork, along with the renewal fee will need to be mailed to the Chancery. If you need to know when your certification expires, please contact the school office.

MEDICINE FOR SCHOOL

If your child has a condition requiring medicine to be kept at school, please send these items as soon as possible. It is essential that all prescription-type medication be accompanied with a doctor's note. This would include inhalers and Epi-pens.

CTK FAMILY DIRECTORY

Christ the King school produces a family directory which contains home addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses for all CTK School families. It is an essential tool for our CTK parents as it also contains class lists, information on Parents Club including committee names with descriptions and their chairpersons, Sports Club and School Improvement details. Families will be provided one copy, and additional copies can be purchased for \$3.00. Many parents find it handy to keep one at home and one in the car. We are looking to have these produced and ready for distribution in early-September.

LUNCH MENUS & MONTHLY CALENDARS

These will be updated on a monthly basis and uploaded to the CTK website, typically the last week of each month.

SPIRIT DAY, THURSDAY, AUGUST 25

Spirit Day is Christ the King's dress down day. Students may wear jeans or capri-pants below the knee (no holes or tears...) along with their CTK apparel or house shirts! As a reminder, no shorts are allowed on Spirit days. If you don't have any CTK apparel, purple or gold shirts, CTK soccer jersey's or anything with purple/gold on it will work. Check out your Family / Student Handbook for guidelines. Middle school students will wear their house t-shirts these days. If you want to purchase CTK apparel, contact Rebecca Hazel at rebeccapietramale@cox.net or 402-344-0773.

DIBELS TESTING

The DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) test will be administered to all students in grades K-3 during the 2nd & 3rd week of school. More information regarding these measures and student scores will come home in September. Additional information about these measures can also be found on <https://dibels.uoregon.edu/>. Questions can be directed to our Reading Specialist, Mrs. Heithoff at heithoffj@ctkomaha.org.

MUSIC IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS (MCS)

An informal meeting / open house / registration will be held on Wednesday, August 24 from 3:30-4:30pm in the Library. It is open to parents and their children in grades 5-8 who are interested in the band program offered at CTK.

2011 CHOIR GROUP

The CTK choir group is comprised of students in 4-8th grades who perform at all-school masses, some grade-level masses, the Advent Festival and the Spring Concert. In addition, there may be other performance opportunities that may arise throughout the year. The weekly time commitment is one 45-minute practice after school (Thursday's from 3:30-4:15PM) as well arriving early at school on mass days to warm-up and rehearse.

Grades 4-8: Choir tryouts will be held on August 25th and the new choir practice will start September 8th. Their first mass will be on Friday, September 9th.

LOST 'N FOUND

We have a table set up near the office area for items that are left in and around the school. You may check this table any time. Once per quarter, any items left unclaimed will be donated to a charitable organization.

CUB SCOUTS

Check out the flyer at the bottom of the update for info on scouting opportunities for boys in grades 1-5.

"SEEN AND HEARD"

In recent years, the office has published a column of phrases and comments that students have said throughout the current school year. These phrases are usually shared with school families in the final Weekly Update. Well, we didn't get last years' ready in time for the last update in May, and have attached it to this one. Read through to the last pages of the update for these genuine and (sometimes comical) statements that kids made throughout the 2010-2011 school year! Enjoy!

BROCHURES

On occasion, the school office will receive brochures or flyers from various art, athletic and miscellaneous community organizations throughout the Omaha area. These flyers are kept in the school office and notices will be placed in the Weekly Update indicating those currently on hand. If you are interested in any, please stop by the office, or give us a call and we will send one home with your child. Flyers currently available: Arts for All, Inc.

LAND O' LAKES

We're collecting.....milk and orange juice caps from Land O' Lakes! Send them to the office in a Ziploc bag!

BOX TOPS

Don't forget to clip those box tops! Each box top is worth \$0.10 and the school collects handsome checks throughout the school year that are used for various needs. A new box top blitz will be organized and coming soon! Keep your eye on the update!

PARENTS CLUB

PARENTS CLUB OFFICERS

President: Beth Wilson
Vice-Pres: Jennifer Slattery
Treasurer: Pat Elliott
Secretary: Kathy Kemler

CTK PARENTS CLUB

All CTK parents with children enrolled at the school are automatically members of the CTK Parents Club. We welcome all of our new families! Join us on Tuesday, August 23 at 7:00 PM in the Parish Center for our first meeting of the year. It's a great way to get to know other parents at CTK and see what wonderful things we have planned for our school! We look forward to seeing you!

USED UNIFORMS

If you have used uniforms that you no longer need, you may send them to the school office to be placed in the drop-off box. Questions or need an item? Contact Kelly Steier at 331-0965 or kellysteier4@gmail.com.

CTK APPAREL

Need something for Spirit Day on Thursday, August 25? Contact Rebecca Hazel at 402-344-0773 or rebeccapietramale@cox.net.

CHAT 'N CHEW

This is a cool after school Book Club and is open to a limited number of students for grades K-5. We will meet the 3rd Monday of each month from 3:20- 4PM in the CTK classrooms starting on September 19, 2011. Parent volunteers will select the books and facilitate the meetings. Limited copies of the books will be available in the CTK library. Student participation is voluntary and requires a parent to enroll the student. If you would like your child in this activity please e-mail Peggy Sutej.(Please e-mail student name, grade and teacher) Students who participate have to: Read a selected book once a month (the whole book), participate in the discussion and show respect to others. Be sure to enroll your child by Sept 5th, 2011. September book selections will be posted in a future update. Questions or enrollment please e-mail Peggy Sutej at dsutej@cox.net.



ATHLETIC NEWS by RAY JANSEN 392-1052

VOLLEYBALL

Schedules will not be available until Monday, August 29th. The first games could be scheduled as early as September 1st or September 3rd. I have been attending practices to pass out volleyball uniforms. If your child misses practice, they will have to come see me after school to get a uniform.

Parents, your volunteer VB coach also needs your help. A parent is needed to keep the official scorebook at all home games. If you don't know how to keep the scorebook, you could practice doing it at away games. It is not rocket science; I think you can do it.

SOCCER

Soccer games began yesterday (Thursday), and our under-12 boys team started off the season with a nice victory against St. James.

Most team rosters are full, but a few have open spots. If you missed school registration, you missed a chance to pick-up your child's soccer uniform. If you need a uniform, have your child come see me someday after school.

KINDERGARTEN SOCCER

I hope to send home kindergarten soccer registration forms next week. As of now, I think the kindergarteners will start soccer on Wednesday, September 7th, right after school.

BASEBALL

For the second year in a row, our 7th a& 8th grade baseball team were PAL League tournament champions. Great job boys and coaches! Please remember to wash and return your baseball uniforms to the school office as soon as possible.



Calling all 1st through 5th grade boys!

Are you interested in Scouting?

Join us for an Ice Cream Social and hear about what Cub Scouts has to offer.

Day: Tuesday, September 6th

Time: 6:30pm

Location: CTK Cafeteria

What is Scouting?

"Scouting is fun with a purpose."

-the founder of Scouting, Lord Baden Powell

- Cub Scouting is a home and neighborhood-centered program designed to support the values you teach at home.
- Cub Scouts learn respect for God, country, and other people, in addition to other positive skills like academic accomplishment, getting along with others, independence, personal achievement, positive decision-making, and appreciation of the outdoors.
- Cub Scout motto: Do Your Best



Pack Activities and Events

- Fall Campout
- Vala's pumpkin patch
- Fall Community Service activity
- Popcorn Sales
- Neighborhood Christmas caroling
- Pinewood Derby
- Indoor Winter Campout
- Blue and Gold Banquet (awards ceremony)
- Spring campout
- Scouting for food
- Den meetings (by grade level)



I promise to do my best, to do my duty, to God and my country, to help other people, and to obey the law of the Pack.

Why Join Scouting?

- Scouting is good for the whole family. Dads (or Moms!) get to spend time with their son and witness him achieve new heights.
- In a society where winning is everything, Cub Scouting teaches boys to "do his best" and to be helpful to others.
- Scouting strengthens family values and relationships.
- As one Scout leader said, "Scouting teaches your son skills for a lifetime - not just a season."

What is the cost of Cub Scouting?

- Parents are responsible for a \$50 registration fee that includes a one year subscription to "Boys Life" magazine. This covers Pack events, awards, and rank badges.
- Our pack earns income by working on one approved fundraising project, the Trails End popcorn sale during the month of October. This funds the pack's activities for the entire year.
- One additional cost is the Scout uniform, which includes a shirt, neckerchief, slide, and belt. (The shirt and belt can last through all of your son's Cub years.)

Join the Fun!



Questions?

Please call or e-mail
Chris Tomcak 402-680-0504
ctomcak@cox.net

What is your commitment?

- Cub Scouting is a program that parents (Moms or Dads) and sons do together.
- The pack (all CTK Cub Scouts) meet once per month.
- The dens (each individual grade) generally meet twice per month (at the discretion of the den leader).
- Parents, help out where you can! There are a variety of options - from den leader or co-leader to snack organizer.

TO HAVE FUN!



SEEN & HEARD

These are comments that the office heard throughout the 2010-2011 school year that were recorded. Please note that no names are used; however, you may determine that it was your child that made the statement!

- A kindergarten student came up to office with another student. They said, "I was running on the twack and was about to get 4th place and Mrs. Scarpetto tode a student to stay on the gwass and he didn't wisten and then he twipped me and made me bweed." (NOTE: this was very cute when said in person!)
- A partial power outage occurred during the school day. A kindergarten student said, "We're having a lockdown-Black."
- "I sneezed and hit my head on my desk, can I get some ice?"
- Child came in with headache at 9:30am. The office took their temperature and the child had a fever as well. The office asked if she had these symptoms when she woke up and she replied, "Yes, and I told my mom but she just said to suck it up and go to school".
- "My lip got split."
- "Something bursted out in my neck like a big chunk of something and it tasted like throw-up and it was really gross."

- “I’m kinda happy I got my impetigo back – the medicine tastes good. But if you leave it in your mouth too long, it loses its taste.”
- “I’m a lefty and my sister is a righty. My other grandpa is a lefty like me.”
- A second grader came to the office complaining of a headache. The office asked if they got them a lot? The child replied, “I’ve had them every day since I was born.”
- “I fell and tripped on my face.” (student had a scraped up cheek and chin)
- A kindergartener came to the office not feeling well. We took his temp (101.9). He said, “I slept with my mouth wide open last night. I told my dad that I was sick, and he didn’t even care. He sent me to school, so you can call my mom. He didn’t even bother to take my temperature.”
- “I’m growing my grown-up teeth.”
- “If you don’t know who my dad is, his name is Tyler.”
- Two students come to office. The one who was ‘uninjured’ says “her left knee is hurting.” The office asks the child who’s knee is hurting and ask what she was doing? She replied, “Just standing”.
- A student had to go home due to vomiting says, “I noticed when I threw up there were chunks in it that looked like my dinner last night”.
- “I never throw up, only my brother and sister.”
- “My dad is lazy, he always sleeps and wakes up 10 minute before he has to go to work.”
- A student said to his teacher, “My paper broke, so I taped it.”
- “Can I have some ice, my left lung hurts? It’s been hurting since 10 o’clock.”
- “My head got scrunched on the wall by the bathroom.”
- A student to a teacher, “May I get another ketchup, my meat fell in it?” The teacher replied, “Just scoop out that part, the rest of it’s still good.” Another student chimes in, “Yeah! Be a man, just dig it outta there!”

