

The activity at Carr Lane VPA is so incessant that a single issue of News & Views can't begin to capture the special events, sports, classroom projects, assemblies and special performances. Last issue we left off with a review of the banquet sponsored by Wells Fargo, 6th grade over-night camping, and the hectic days leading-up to Red Ribbon Week and preparations for the Halloween Dance. This issue starts out on October 25, 2019 with Carr Lane's Annual Fall Fest. Pictured above, Carr Lane Band Director, Ms. Blaylock debuts with the Carr Lane Concert Band in the school-wide assembly presented by the Fine Arts Team.



Behind the scenes as Ms. Blaylock introduces the performance, from stage left, with a view to the house.



Vocal Music Director, Ms. Williams, conducts the concert choir.







Leah's crew keeps things "lit" from the auditorium light booth!

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Carr Lane Dancers with a Halloween-themed performances, choreographed and directed by Ms. Parker.



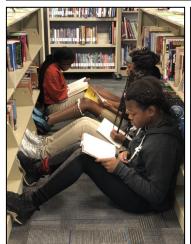




A retrospective slide-show presentation recounts the first three months of school!

CARR LANE VPA LIBRARY

The Carr Lane VPA Library on the 3rd floor has a new look! Thanks to the school's administrative team and to our new librarian, Ms. Cotton! Thanks also to Ms. Gallion for sharing these photos of her students!

















Staff members show support for Red Ribbon week! The day's theme was drawn from the "Where's Waldo?" series of books. Red Ribbon Week coincided with Halloween Week, culminating with the Halloween Dance!

Students and staff throughout the building showed their spirit by coming to school in costume. At the end of the day, Principal Young brought in a DJ to the Carr Lane Gymnasium for the Halloween Dance. Meanwhile, a Halloween movie played in the Carr Lane Theater, and staff and students played board games in the Carr Lane Cafeteria. It was a time of celebration for the start of the 2019-2020 Holiday Season!











The Halloween Party Dance Floor!











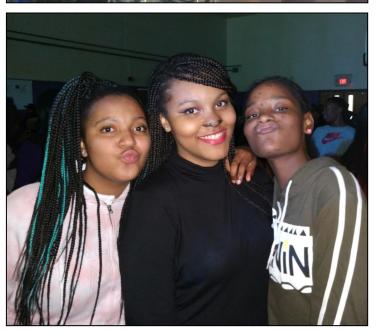




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Back in the Science Class...

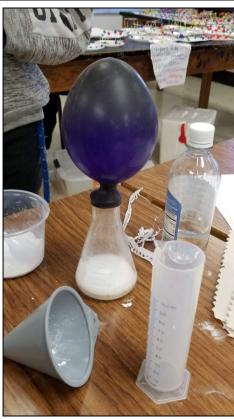


The students in Mr. Young's 7th Grade Science class were studying chemistry and the concept of chemical reactions. Although the students had already completed the experiment, Mr. Young and his students were kind enough to have us in during the early afternoon where one of the students recreated the experiment. She demonstrated how a chemical reaction between two common household products, vinegar (an acid, diluted acetic acid) and baking soda (a base, sodium bicarbonate) when mixed, will release a gas, carbon dioxide.









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On November 7, 2019 girls from Carr Lane VPA attended a screening of the new historical drama based on the life of Harriet Tubman!









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"Hey Lil' Black Girl... It's Your World" is the debut work from award-winning motivational speaker, life coach, and youth advocate Fredrecka S. McGlown. Ms. McGlown addressed the girls of Gem in the Carr Lane VPA Library on November 21, 2019!







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GEM & GIRL POWER! It was December 5, 2019, a special day for girls at Carr Lane VPA. Mrs. Goode-Lockley helped organize a special presentation in the Carr Lane Auditorium followed by break-out sessions held throughout the Fine Arts Wing. It was Girls Empowerment Magic! The day-long event was supported by CHESS Cops (Cops Helping Enhance Student Skills). The auditorium program, pictured above, was introduced by Principal Young and featured Woman Chess Grandmaster Jennifer Shahade!



Smile! Some girls from GEM on "Dress Up Day," stand-in for this photograph from GEM Sponsor, Mrs., Goode-Lockley, taken in the Carr Lane VPA Library on October 24, 2019!



A lot of pizza awaits the participants of the girls' rally!



Two of the organizers of the Girls' Rally on December 5, 2019, including Carr Lane's own 7th grade science teacher, Mr. Young!



For the second year in a row, Ralph Mason and his band bring their Anti-bullying program to the students and staff of Carr Lane VPA!

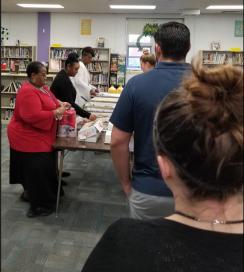




Students respond to the Anti-Bullying program in the Carr Lane VPA Theater on November 20, 2019!

THANKSGIVING!



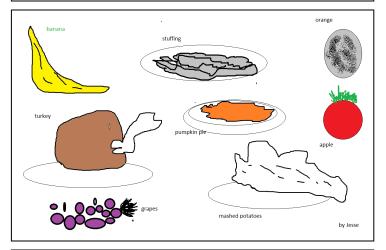






On November 20, 2019, in collaboration with the Carr Lane VPA Administrative Team, The Hospitality and Climate Committee provided a wonderful Thanksgiving Breakfast to faculty and staff. Later, the staff joined their students in the Carr VPA Theater for Ralph Mason's Anti-Bullying Program. The lively event, combining music, song, and audience participation engaged the entire student body.

Each and everyday as part of their "Do Now" in their Computer Literacy Class, students practice key-boarding drills. Often they type famous poems, songs, or the opening paragraphs of classics drawn from World Literature. Right before Thanksgiving, students were encouraged to set-aside the daily drill and instead create an original piece reflecting on their Thanksgiving Holiday traditions. 8th grade students, Jesse, Janiya, and Isaiah took-up the challenge. So, too, did 7th grade student, Tristan. Completing their computer graphics unit, some students included electronic drawing of a Thanksgiving Holiday meal.



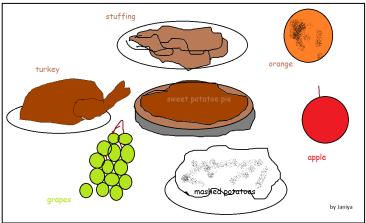
THANKSGIVING

by Jesse, Grade 8

On Thanksgiving I am going over my to cousin's house. We will stay over there for the whole Thanksgiving break. My mother cooks a lot of things. She will cook turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and many more things. Thanksgiving means a lot to me, from family to food to friends.

The best thing I like about Thanksgiving is when I get to see my family, because every normal day it is family drama. On Thanksgiving everyone puts down their petty sides to listen to music, chill, and eat. I really like food. To other people, Thanksgiving might just mean food for everyone, but you have to notice that on the first Thanksgiving, two rivals sat down together and had a big feast. It was a time of peace.

At my cousin's house, I will play games almost the whole time. I'm going to play the game with my uncle's oldest son. We call him "Man Man." The second brother, the middle one, we call Jordan, and we'll play with the second to last son. We all have a PS4's. We no longer like Xboxes. Once we all had Xboxes, but that was about five to six years ago. Now, it's all PS4! What did you do on your Thanksgiving break?



THANKSGIVING

by Janiya, Grade 8

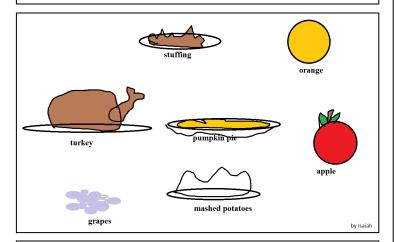
This year for Thanksgiving I'm going to Kansas City. I'll be spending time with the other side of my family and their friends. Almost every year for Thanks giving I've gone to my uncle's house, and we all invite the rest of our family. We eat mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, sweet potato pie, green beans, macaroni and cheese, lasagna, chicken, turkey, meat loaf, mostaccioli, greens, stuffing, cornbread, cranberry sauce, corn, lemon cake, strawberry cake, chocolate cake, and vanilla cake. Then everyone who likes sports gathers around the TV in the living room and watches football. Next, some of the women go to the kitchen and cook the rest of the food and clean up the mess they made. The "kids" go to the kid room, and the rest of us go outside and catch up on all the stuff we missed because of our busy lives. After about 4-6 hours of preparation, we all get a plate and find somewhere to eat. At the end of the day we all go back outside and talk for the rest of the night. People leave, but most of us stay till around 10 or 11. We exchange numbers and keep in touch with each other, because, most likely, we won't see each other until the next holiday.

MY THANKSGIVING

by Tristan, Grade 7

I love Thanksgiving! On Thanksgiving we always follow a tradition where we have macaroni and cheese, turkey, and dressing. A lot of people say that Thanksgiving is trash because they say that they don't know their family. I feel sad for those people, because they end-up on the streets. They smoke and do drugs because they take up after the wrong people, because they don't know what to do with their lives. Anyway, going back to my story, I will say that every Thanksgiving we all vote as to whether we have our traditional meal, where we have macaroni and cheese and dressing and sometimes mash potatoes with gravy and turkey.

The food is so good because my mom cooks it. By the way, she is an excellent cook. Non-traditional food would be where we would have something like chicken or something else. I really don't like non-traditional, and like that we vote for traditional. On Thanksgiving we don't go anywhere, but that's fine, because I would rather just like to sit down at home and eat.



MY THANKSGIVING

by Isaiah, Grade 8

Today I will tell you all about my Thanksgiving traditions. Enjoy! Usually, on Thanksgiving family and friends meet at my mom's house. She is usually the one who cooks. Some people bring food with them, even though I don't eat it (no disrespect). I usually help my mom cook. We eat turkey, of course. We also eat soul food which includes collard greens, candy yams, and many more things. We share a prayer and bless our food. The food is always good, because it's my mom's. I like Thanksgiving, because I get quality time with my family. We usually say what we are thankful for. On Thanksgiving there's no arguing. It's a day of family and thanks. I usually just stay on my game system or on my phone, even though everyone

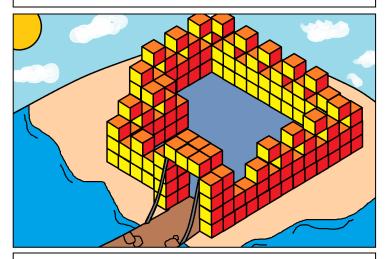
still comes to see my bother me. Thanksgiving is possibly my second favorite holiday. I just don't like having to go back to school. Everyone leaves around 10. Some people may spend a night over. Once everyone leaves, we clean up. My sisters go to sleep, but of course, I stay on the game. Then I finally got to sleep. Now, my Thanksgiving is over. These are my Thanksgiving holiday traditions.

7th Grade Computer Literacy Student, Camille, changed-up the assignment, sharing some of her thoughts on Christmas Break!

WHAT I'M DOING FOR CHRISTMAS BREAK!

by Camille, Grade 7

This Christmas I plan on going out of town to see my mama in Charlotte, North Carolina. It's a long story on why she's all the way in Charlotte, North Carolina, but, besides that, I think it will be a really fun experience, even though it won't be my very first time going down there. If I don't get the chance to see my mama this year for Christmas, it will be okay. I'll probably be really upset, but I'll see her for my birthday in February. Speaking of birthdays, my mama's birthday is in December, on the 31st. Yeah, I know -- very unique, right? #Capricorn. Anyway, as you can see, I can get off topic very quickly! As I was saying, if I don't get to go out of town this Christmas, there are many more Christmas' to go in the future, and if I don't get to go this year, then I'll just spend time at home with my friends.



Speaking of Computer Graphics, here is "Crystal Castle," a variation on "Tessellation" by 8th Grade CL student, Tatyana.

MEET YOU ON THE COURT!

Twice a year, the Fine Arts Department sponsors a day of athletic competition: staff against students!. We play a game of volleyball and a game of basketball, first against the girls and then, the boys. We play all day, that's four games for each of the 3 grade levels. Thanks to all the non-Fine Arts teachers and staff who took time off their lunch breaks to play (and help out the Fine Arts Team members!) As for the 8th Grade Boys' Basketball Team (the only group to beat the adults), we'll see you on the count in May 2020!













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So long from 8th grader, Emmanuel, on the last day of school!



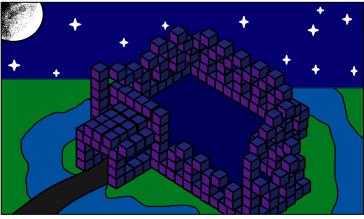
Carr Lane VPA Art Teacher, Ms. Choate on the last day of work before teachers headed home for break. She had a special guest!



A parting shot from October, and the Halloween Dance Floor!



The halls were "decked" for Winter Break!



A parting piece of Computer Art from 8th Grade CL student, Janiya. It's her take on the "Crystal Castle" assignment!

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Carr Lane VPA News and Views is published by the Computer Literacy Classes from Room 109 with the help and support of the Carr Lane Fine Arts Team, and the students, teachers, and staff throughout the building!

For this issue, special thanks for contributions from Ms. Choate, Ms. Gallion, Mrs. Goode-Lockley, and Mr. Darnell Young!