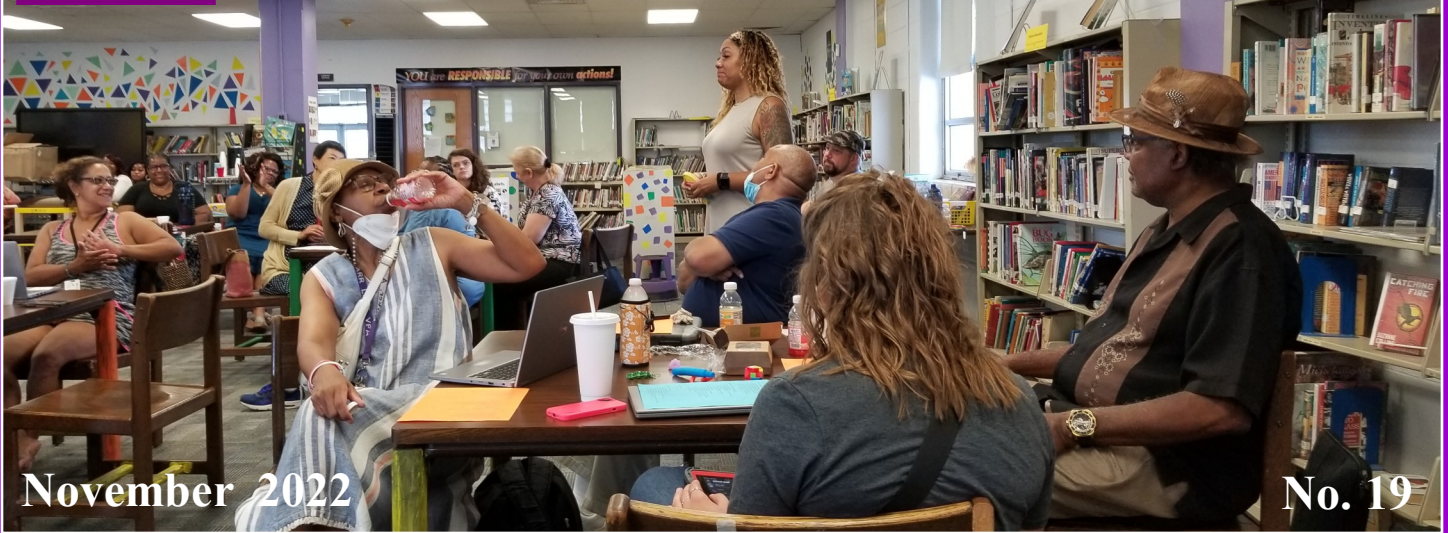




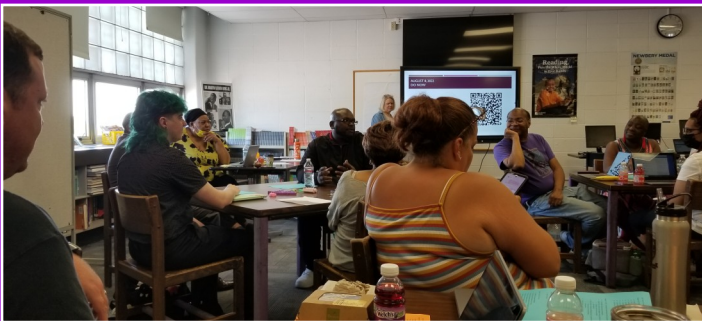
Carr Lane VPA News & Views



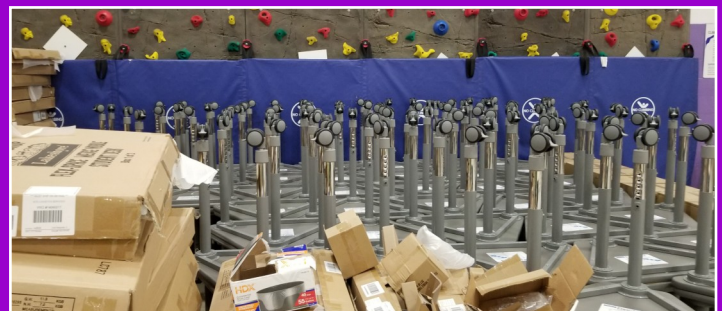
November 2022

No. 19

Ms. Shipp, 8th Grade Social Studies Teacher and Team leader, addresses faculty and staff on the first day back from summer.



Top left: Asst. Principal, Ms. Gross, welcomes faculty and staff. **Above:** Principal Young greets the Carr Lane Family. **Left:** Ms. Nash, 7th Grade ELA Teacher introduces herself at the meeting. Other new faculty included Ms. Mears, Mr. Barr, Mr. Slenker and Mr. Sanderson. Other new faculty and staff would soon join Carr Lane. Read ahead...



Meanwhile... a massive crew of workers un-box and assemble brand-new classroom furniture for the building!

RETURN TO CARR LANE!



August 22, 2022 -- Following summer vacation, students return to Carr Lane VPA for the 2022-2023 school year!

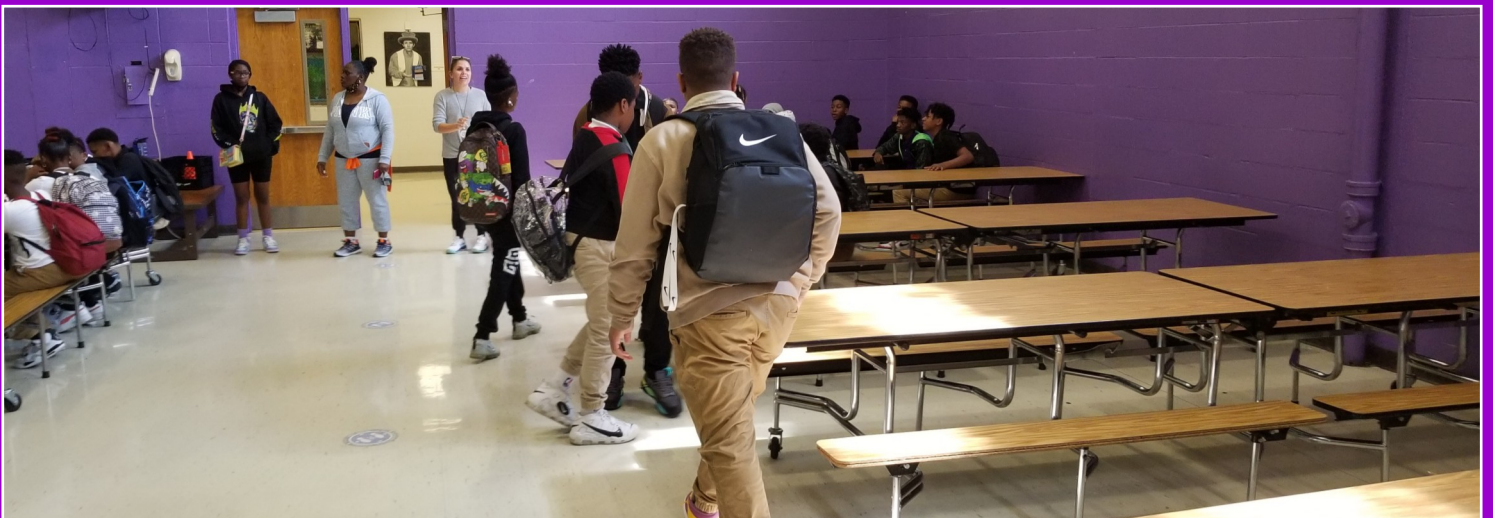




Fine Arts Team Leader, Ms. Parker and Ms. Litteken, Carr Lane Health Teacher and Boys' Volleyball Coach assemble the students.



The regular day is at an end, and students prepare for Carr Lane VPA after-school programs.



Students head-out to their after-school activities, teams, and clubs.



On September 19, 2022 Queen Elizabeth II was laid to rest. Elizabeth ascended the throne of Great Britain in 1952. She is the longest reigning monarch in Great Britain's one-thousand year-long history. She is the second longest reigning monarch in world history, second only to King Louis the 14th of France who reigned for 72 years, from 1643 to 1715. 9-19-22 a memorable day in history.



Ms. Vierling, Ms. Beverly, Ms. Abrams and Ms. Williams honor the Queen's passing with tea and crumpets.

CARR LANE VPA OPEN HOUSE!



The Carr Lane Spirit Squad pulls out all the stops at the Open House held on Wednesday night, September 21, 2022!



Ms. Hill of Trio, welcomes parents and family to the open house on September 21. Ms. Hill's organization helps families and students plan a path to College!



Carr Lane Counselor, Ms. Williams welcomes families to Open House!

WELCOME HOME!



Ms. Stephanie, Dr. Phoenix, Ms. Parker and Mr. Mahr. On Thursday, September 22, 2022, Mr. Atif Mahr returned to his old middle school. Yes! He attended Carr Lane VPA as a student. He returned years later with a degree and ran the School's Drama Program. He left Carr Lane a few years ago to pursue interests in Atlanta, Georgia. Now, back in his home town of St. Louis, Mr. Mahr dropped in at Carr Lane to see some of his old friends and co-workers. We miss you, Mr. Mahr! Great seeing you again!



ST. LOUIS BLUES TEAM MEMBERS VISIT CARR LANE!



Members of the St. Louis Blues hold a floor hockey clinic during Mr. Folkes' Physical Education classes.



The St. Louis Blues' floor hockey clinic!



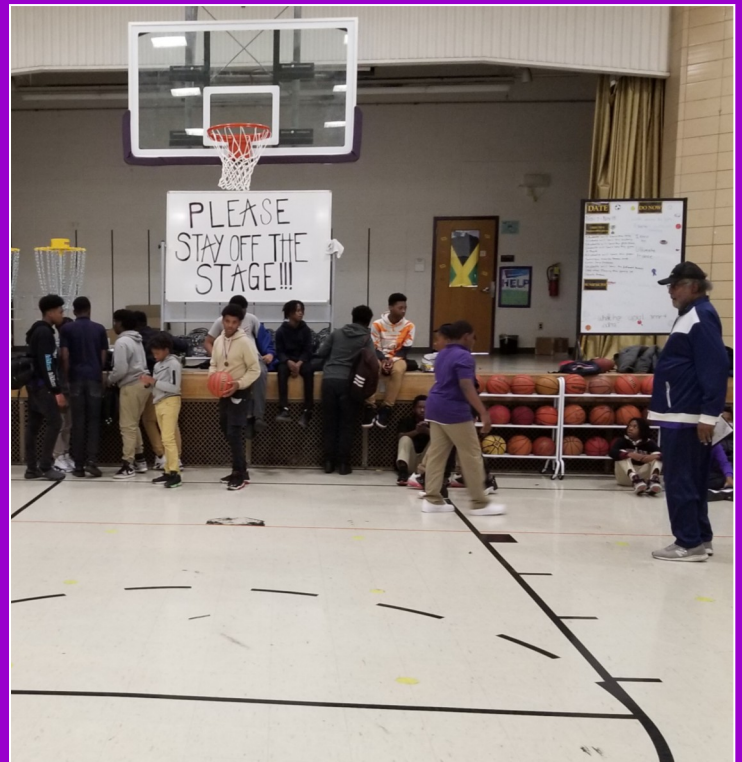
Members of the Carr Lane Track Team led by Coach Nash.



The Carr Lane VPA Boys' Volleyball Team with Coach Litteken at Vashon High. Carr Lane won the championship!



Congratulations to Coach Litteken and her award winning team!



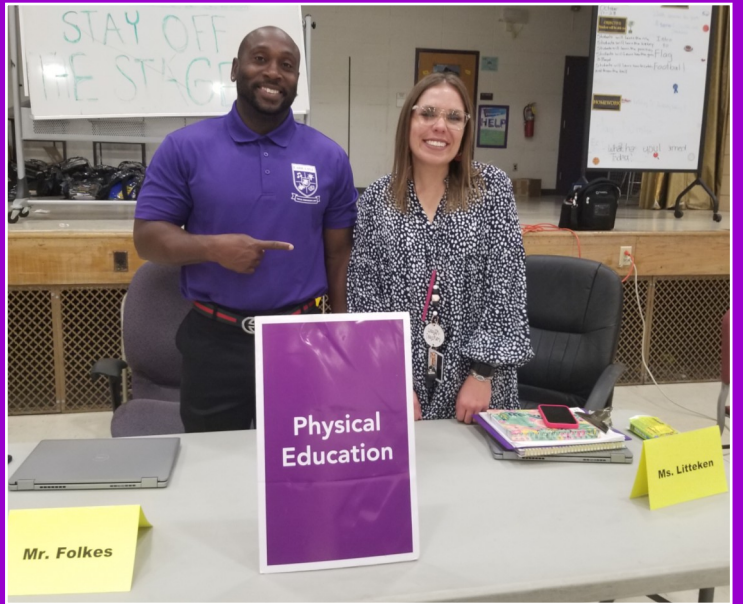
Following the regular school day, boys assemble in the gymnasium with Coach Young as the students try-out for a spot on the 2022-2023 Carr Lane VPA Boys' Basketball Team.

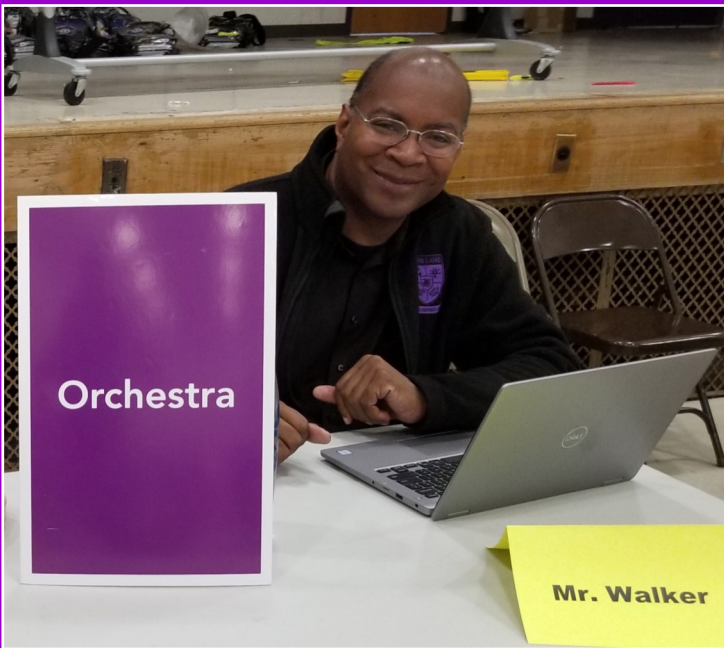
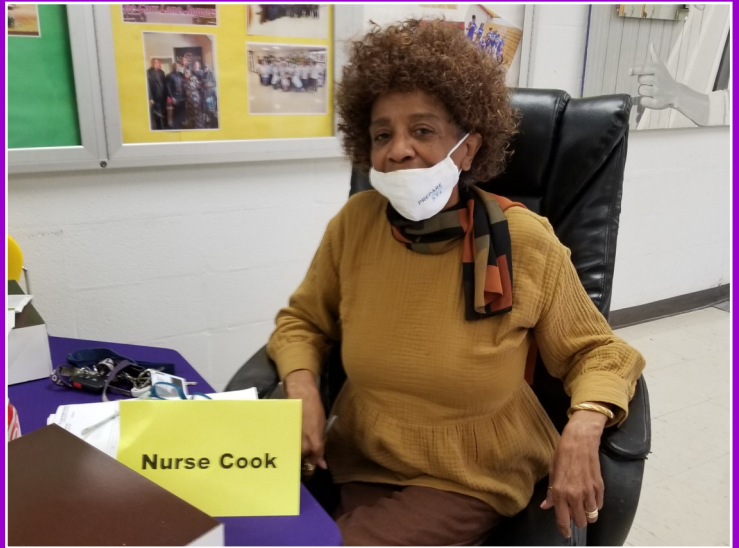
Parent/Teacher Conferences



There was a strong turn-out for Parent/Teacher Conferences held over two evenings: October 19 and 20, 2022 in the Carr Lane gym.







Recently, in the 109 Computer Literacy classes, students were tasked with the idea of writing about a "significant family tradition." Thanksgiving celebration? Annual Super bowl party? Hanukkah observance? Family Reunion? Annual birthday party?

Within those parameters, the sky was the limit. Here are the thoughts of those students who responded and who agreed to have their stories reproduced in print for Carr Lane VPA News and Views!

HOLIDAY TRADITION

by Sri, 8A

My favorite holiday is Christmas. I go to my auntie's house with my cousins, or I go to my daddy's house with my other sisters and my brother. Sometimes we go eat and spend time there and then go back to one of our cousins' or aunt's house and open up most of our gifts. Then, after that we go to different people's houses and see what they're doing or what they have for me and my other sisters. My momma also takes me to go see my daddy to get some presents and money and other stuff. We eat baked macaroni, chicken, dressing, cake, and pie. Sometimes we eat ham and fried chicken, macaroni and mashed potatoes. Getting gifts and spending time with my family that I am barley around is important to me. I like meeting the other side my family that I never met. Going to visit others that I never met before or been around is important, but I love getting gift cards from my daddy and grandma or grandpa.

HOLIDAY TRADITIONS

by Janell, 8A

On Thanksgiving we eat dinner. We have over as much family as possible. We talk while we eat. We have turkey and ham on the dinner table so everyone can pick which one they want, so we won't be forcing them with one or the other. We have mashed potatoes, yams, stuffing, and cornbread on the table. For dessert, we have cake, sweet potato pie, brownies, pound cake and banana pudding. We have our corn, greens, salad, and potato salad. We stay at my house. We cook the food and we put the food out. We celebrate Thanksgiving every year with family. Every year I'm either with my mother or father so I can share it with both of them. On Thanksgiving I get to see the family that I haven't seen in a long time, catch up with them and talk with them. Thanksgiving brings my family together and brings family to town.

I believe Thanksgiving is a blessing to me and my family. I think Thanksgiving is a wonderful time of the year because we get to stuff our faces with a bunch of good foods. Thanksgiving is a time we get to talk with family and eat good foods. That's my Thanksgiving tradition!

HOLIDAY TRADITIONS

by Montez, 8A

Christmas is one of my favorite holidays of all time. When I celebrate Christmas, I go over to my grandmother's house, and last Christmas I had Christmas at my mom's house as well. I see my mom, my dad, my two sisters, and my other sister on my dad's side, my grandpa, and my two aunts. I see my grandma and my grandfather. The food that we eat on Christmas is ham, collard greens, or green beans, then we eat either cheesecake, pie, or banana pudding for dessert, and also baked macaroni and cheese, or sweet potatoes. Sometimes we have a sweet potato casserole. What we do on Christmas is open presents, drink hot cocoa whilst doing so, or eat some snacks while opening our presents. I play on my game, or play the new games I got. I watch TV or watch my mom or my granny cook the food for the dinner. After that I hop on my phone!

HOLIDAY TRADITIONS

by Christian, 8A

On Thanksgiving I would celebrate with my family. We sit at the dinner table and have turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, and some fruits. We always put up our Christmas tree,

too. Some friends also come over to celebrate as well. We watch TV when we finish our Thanksgiving feast. Next, we chat and play around for a little bit and then our guests leave. Then our uncle and aunt come over to give us Thanksgiving presents. We do not do much on Thanksgiving but at least it is something. Then for dessert, we have a pumpkin pie with whipped cream and cherries. They are always so good. After that we have green and purple grapes. The purple grapes are better. The green grapes are sour and don't taste as good as the purple grapes. Then after all of that I just go to play my game in my room. Some people do not even get to celebrate Thanksgiving because they don't even have a home or money, so I am grateful for having a great family, a great mother, a great brother and a great sister in my life. I hope some people out there get to celebrate.

HOLIDAY TRADITIONS

by Chloe, 8B

I have many holiday traditions, but my favorite is probably Christmas because I get to see the joy on people's faces when they open their gifts and enjoy their freshly baked goods. On Christmas Eve every year, we open one present. Usually, it's PJs. Then, early the next

morning we wake up and go wake up our parents to open gifts. Normally, we open gifts and we use them while breakfast is being made. Later on in the day we might go visit family or go outside. Also, we watch Christmas movies. My sister Hope loves to watch this movie called *Christmas Chronicles*. I think it's an okay movie, but she watches it over and over, so it's okay, but not my favorite. One of my favorite Christmas movies is the *Grinch*. I like that movie because he learns the meaning of Christmas. He didn't like it at the beginning of the movie and thought it was annoying to hear Christmas carols and bells and kids being happy because he was left out as a child. Anyway, for dinner there would be a Christmas dinner cooked-up for us to eat. Then we play a game (doesn't matter the game.) Finally, we get ready for bed and go to sleep to get ready for the next day.

HAPPY TRADITIONS

by Amori, 8B

For Thanksgiving I'm going out of town for Turkey Bowl. On Thanksgiving weekend for my 9th grade year I'm moving to Texas. For Christmas my mama is giving my sister and me \$500 dollars. I'm getting some new shoes and some new clothes and more. The coach is

getting a room for all the football players and my mama and father said they are going to buy me some snacks and give me some money so I can buy some stuff while I'm down there. For my 15th birthday, I'm getting my permit. For my 16th birthday, I'm getting my car and I will be working. After football season is over, I will start working with Craig making our own money.

MY HOLIDAY TRADITION

by Sarah, 8B

One of my many holiday traditions is playing secret Santa on Christmas. Every year two weeks before Christmas my family and I gather together and write our Christmas lists. Next, we place all the lists in a hat and pull out names. Whoever gets your list is your secret Santa. Throughout the weeks, we plan the gifts we will be buying for the person we got. On two Fridays of the two weeks, we buy a small gift for the person we have and hint who we are. It could be anything, like a small card or a piece of candy. When Christmas day comes we place the presents under the tree. My family and I gather around the tree and start opening presents. We start by picking one of us to give their gift to the person they got for secret Santa. Once the person receives their gift and

opens it, they grab their present and give it to their person. Once everyone has opened their presents and discovered their secret Santa, we eat a Christmas breakfast. That is one of my favorite traditions during the holidays and my favorite holiday.

THANKSGIVING DINNER

by Angelica, 8B

On Thanksgiving dinner my family all gathers around and talks about things we're most thankful for. We eat the feast that my mom made. Thanksgiving is a holiday I like best because all my family comes together and we play games and go outside. My mom makes the best Thanksgiving dinner and we say what we're most thankful for. After that, we put up our Christmas tree and then it's Christmas time! Christmas is another great holiday that my family celebrates. Sometimes my family goes out of town for Christmas, and it's very fun. That's what my family does for our holidays.

MY FAMILY WAYS

by Sherly, 8B

In my family there are so many wonderful things we do together as one, but one tradition, in particular, that will be special to my family

is when I turn 15. Some of you may think: "Why would she write about something that is focused about her?" Well, that's what I'm here to explain to you. When an Hispanic teen girl turns 15 it's called a Quinceanera. You may or may not know what that is, but that's what I'm here to tell you, and about the meaning behind these parties. A Quinceanera is basically a big party to celebrate the birthday girl, but it also is showing that the young girl is ready to become a young woman. It's a very emotional time for the girls, but as well for the parents, because it means that their baby is growing up and is not the same child that she was before. As I grow up, I look at it more as a way to say goodbye to the child I once was. Still, it proves that you are maturing, and that you are ready to face the challenges that await you in the future. It may not seem like this in your eyes, because you're not a part of my culture, but in my eyes it's the most wonderful feeling when a young girl knows that she is ready for what is waiting in the future.

FAMILY THANKSGIVING

by Dream, 7A

Every Thanksgiving my family meets up to go to my auntie's house. Sometimes Thanksgiving lands on my birthday, which is on the 24th!

Once we get to my auntie's house she will still be cooking, so most of the kids go outside to play, or, if it's too cold, we play in the house, something like board games or cards. When my auntie gets done with the food, everyone is there. We wash our hands, go into the kitchen and get our food. We hurry up and go back to the table so that we can pray over our food. When we our done praying we eat and talk about old memories. Since my uncle passed, I don't really know what the talk is going to be about. When we get done eating we have ice cream cake and sometimes I get plates of food to take home. Since this year my birthday lands on Thanksgiving I will get my gifts after the celebration. That's all for my family tradition!

MY FAMILY TRADITION

by Aiiyah, 7A

Every Thanksgiving each parent and child would match using the Thanksgiving colors. My granny, my auntie, and my mother would cook for us. My family either decides to go to a fun place for the kids, or we would have it at a family member's home. This year we are going to have it at my "Teetee's" because she just

moved, so we are going to be having the celebration at her house for a housewarming.

HOLIDAY TRADITIONS

by Ashton, 7A

I don't have any holiday traditions in my family. We don't go to places, but we do go to my auntie's house a day or two before Christmas so my mom can wrap the presents. Sometimes we don't go, so my mom has to go over to my brother's granny's house because that's where she puts all the gifts. On Christmas Eve my mom always makes a good Christmas dinner. It's so good, it looks like it was Thanksgiving! After that I quickly got to sleep so I can wake up first and I do! It is always 6:00 but I'm not even sleepy! I am so excited!

HOLIDAY TRADITON

by Keshay, 7A

My favorite holiday is Christmas because I get new things and shoes and also I eat turkey and desert and I also go over to my granny's house and my family comes over. Also, I get to see my cousins! I do TikToks, go outside, and play with my family It's important to me because I get a lot of prizes and I just get clothes and

new things. We also celebrate Jesus' birthday on Christmas. It's a day to celebrate your family and open your gifts together and be happy and thank your family members for the gifts and stuff that they gave you. I also eat good food and good cookies and hot chocolate, and it's the best holiday. I like Christmas because I get to talk to my family and talk to my cousins that I haven't seen in a long time and, again we do TikTok!

HOLIDAY TRADITION

by Jairus, 7A

My favorite holiday is Christmas because I get a lot of new stuff, I get to spend time with family, and we bond over dinner. One year we went to my cousins' house, and we made a lot of food. We have a big family. There are a lot of kids and grandkids running around. Sometimes we go to my granny's house. She would always make her lemon cake. We would make our own icing. Sometimes I would make some cake, and we would make turkey, mashed potatoes, dressing, cranberry sauce, lasagna, mac and cheese, and we would have a lot of dessert! We have something we do called "grab bag!" We get in a line, oldest to youngest. It's all for little gifts like water bottles, soap, money, snacks. The kids are normally in the

basement and the adults are upstairs. We have so much fun when we go downstairs! "We be playing games," watching movies and watching shows. Sometimes we go outside. It's all good: it's our family tradition!

BIRTHDAY TRADITION

by Darnell, 7A

I'm going to be writing about my birthday. I like my birthday the most because I get stuff I want and I also get money sometimes. Most of the time for my birthday I go out of town. We usually go to Tennessee, Alabama, or Georgia. I've only been to California once. When we go out of town we stay for like five days because my brother's birthday is four days after mine. I go out of town with my aunties, my siblings, and my mom. When we first get there we go to a hotel or a house to put our bags down and stuff and just chill. The next day we usually go to stores and other places. We go to places to have fun like to an arcade, a jumping place or a beach. Also, when we get there they sing happy birthday to me and I usually get my stuff the next day. There's more to it all, but I'm going to stop right here with my favorite family traditions.



HOLIDAY TRADITIONS

by Tyme, 6A

The holiday tradition I love is Thanksgiving, because I'm spending time with my family, and I get to eat wonderful food. For Thanksgiving I usually go to a family member's house, and I see my family playing board games, and just having a great time. The food is mostly turkey, stuffing, pumpkin pie, and mashed potatoes. During Thanksgiving I'm mostly playing video games, and conversing with family, until the food is done and ready to eat. Although Thanksgiving is a great holiday, the most important thing to me is eating good food, and spending time with family. That's my holiday tradition!

* * *

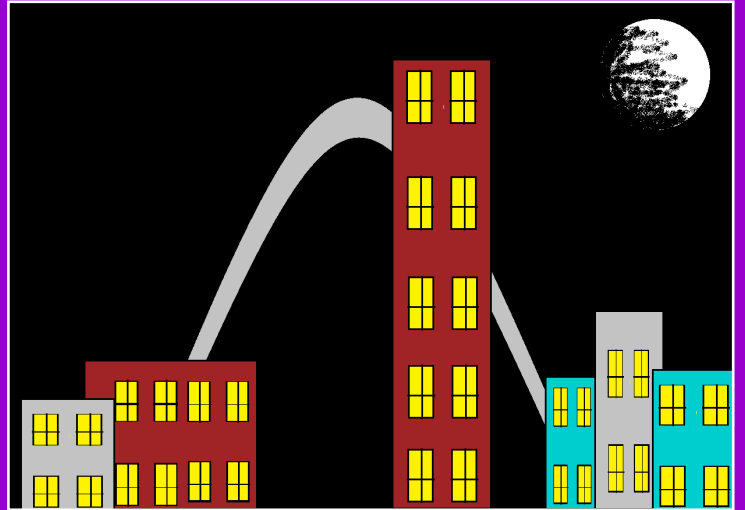


Carr Lane VPA celebrates a new surface for its playground and parking lot. The District resurfaced the areas this fall.

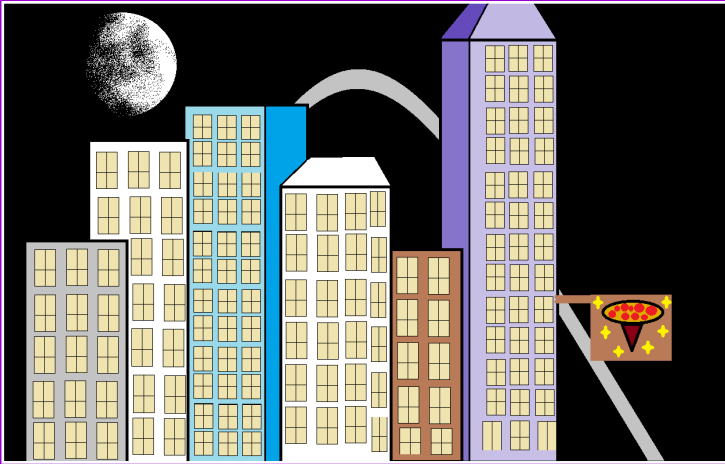
Students with outstanding attendance were rewarded with ice-treats provided by Polar Cops & St. Louis Metro Police.



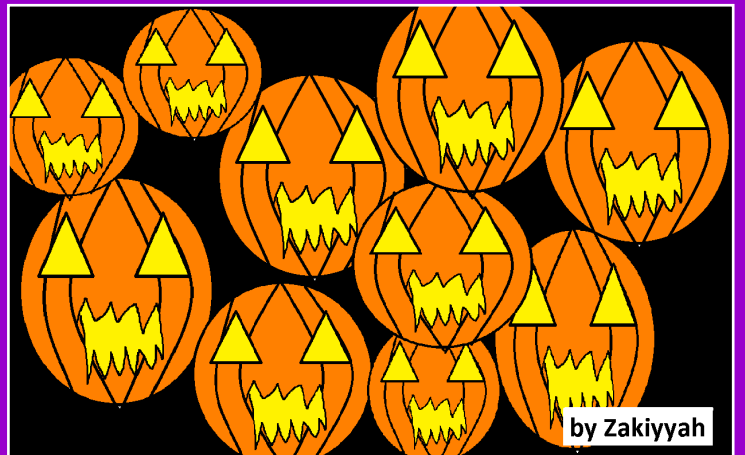
City Scene by Travis, Grade 8



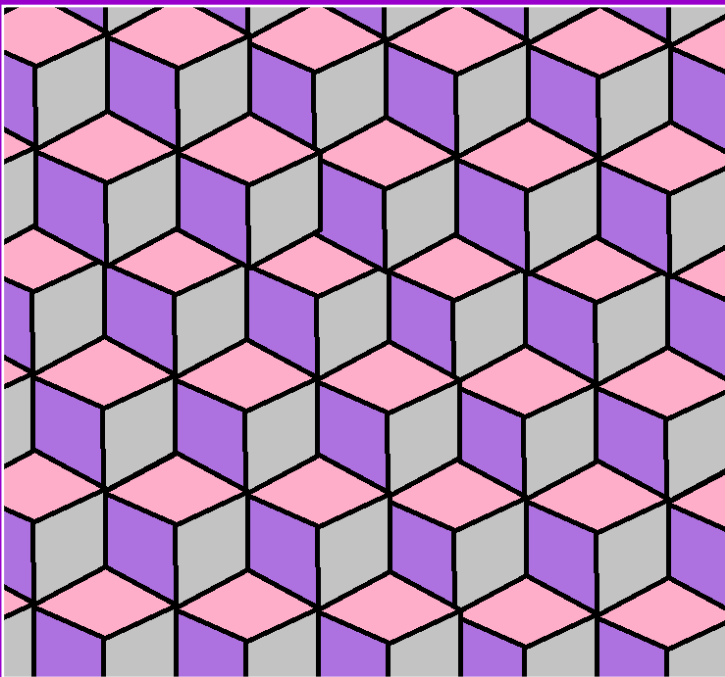
City Scene by Janell, Grade 8



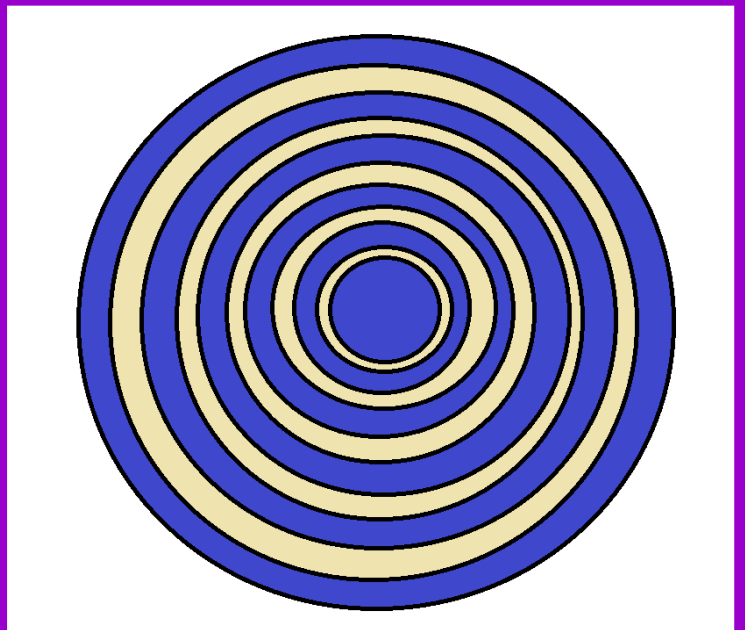
City Scene by Emani, Grade 6



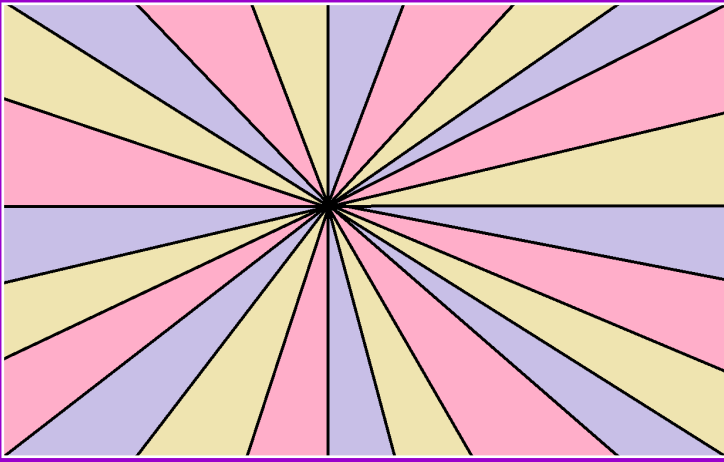
Pumpkin Patch by Zakiyyah, Grade 7



Tessellation by Dream, Grade 7

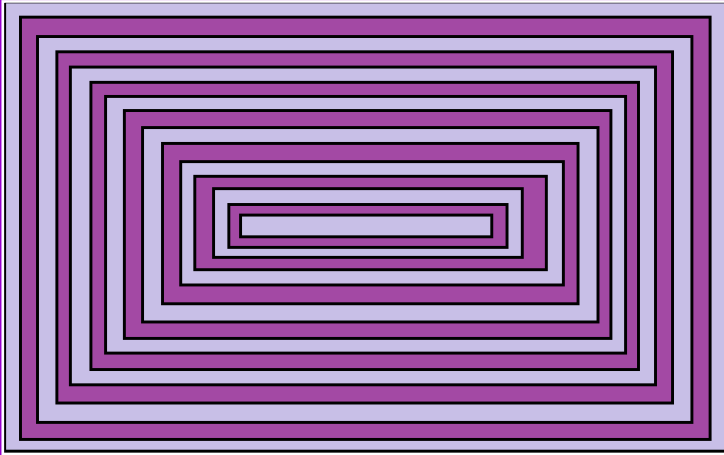


Bull's-eye by Demarie, Grade 7

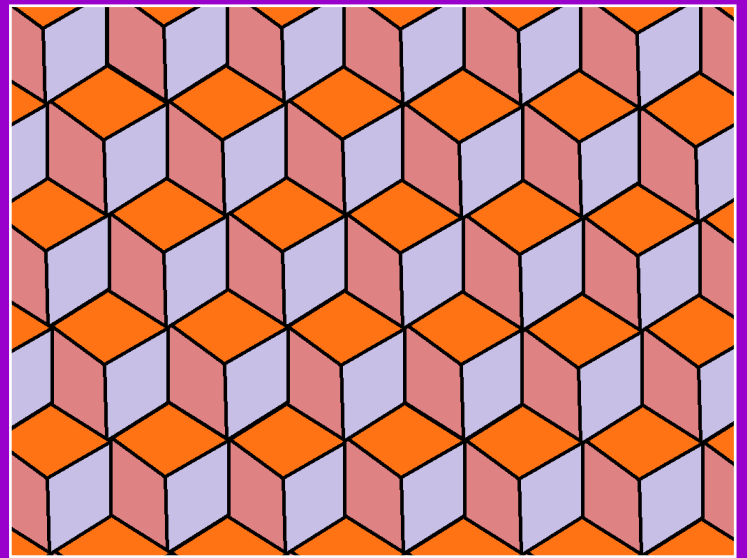


by Keshay

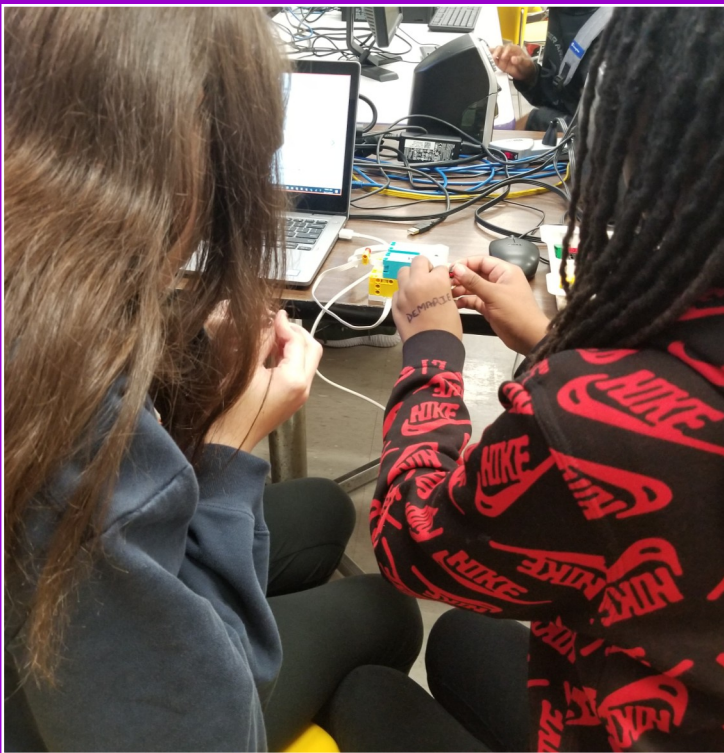
Pumpkin Patch by Keshay, Grade 7



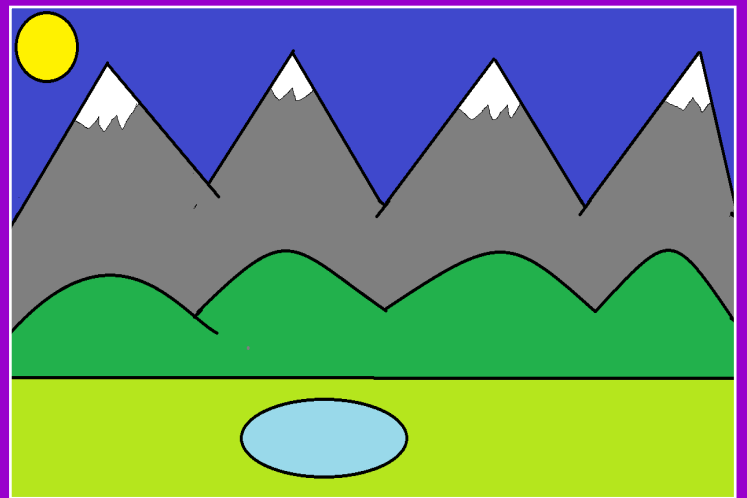
Starburst and Frames by Demarie, Grade 7



Tessellation by Emani, Grade 6



Computer coding in 7th grade.

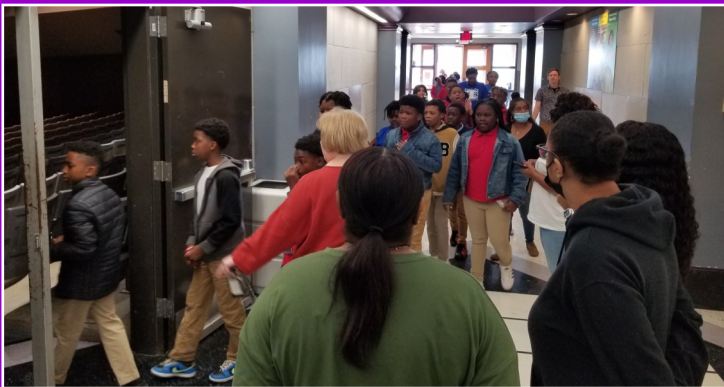


Country Scene by Dream, Grade 7

CARR LANE FALL FEST!



The Carr Lane Orchestra under direction of Mr. Walker opens the Fall Fest Program for students, parents and visitors on 11-10-22



Carr Lane VPA Team Leader, Ms. Parker welcomes the audience to the Carr Lane VPA Theater for the Fall Program on Thursday morning, November 10, 2022. In the audience was a visiting group of fifth grade students from across the street at Gateway Elementary. The students came with their teachers to watch the show and consider whether they might like to join Carr Lane Visual and Performing Arts Middle School as students in 2023-2024!





The Carr Lane VPA Concert Choir under the direction of Ms. Williams.



Under direction of Mr. Tellis, The Carr Lane VPA Drum Line takes the stage.



Sponsored by Ms. Williams, The Carr Lane Drama Club takes the stage!



Ms. Parker's dancers present a patriotic classic.



The audience erupts with applause as the Carr Lane Dancers present *Thriller!*



Denim Browder represents Carr Lane VPA at the St. Louis Symphony!

PICTURE DAY!



Mr. Tellis organized picture day at Carr Lane on October 12, 2022 in the Auditorium.



7th grade students await their turns to go up on the stage and have their portraits taken.



It's November 15, 2022 and a Drum Clinic on the Carr Lane Theater Stage: part of a series!



On November 16, 2022, when the Carr Lane girls went on a field trip, the boys divided into groups for the balance of the special day.



The 24:1 Cinema in Pagedale, Missouri.



On Thursday, November 17, 2022 the Carr Lane boys were treated to a field trip to see *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever*. The film, directed by Ryan Coogler and produced by Marvel Studios has opened with the largest world-wide attendance/box office returns for November in the history of American film! Thanks to Mr. Ford for organizing the field trip and to Principal Young for making it happen. A sequel to *The Black Panther* (2018), the film picks-up the story following the events of *Avengers: Endgame*.



1st appearance of the Black Panther from 1966 and the debut of his sister in her own comic from 2018.

Along with their tickets to the show, the boys got popcorn and soda. Some guys purchased other snacks at the concession stand.

CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations to Carr Lane VPA's Reading Specialist, Ms. Fenner on the pending birth of her baby. All the best, Ms. Fenner!



Ms. Tiffany and her staff prepared a wonderful holiday meal for the students of Carr Lane VPA in a cafeteria outfitted with brand new furniture. It's a bright and welcome space for students!



In observance of Red Ribbon Week, students and staff were encouraged to dress according to a particular theme over the course of the five days. Here are some photos from "dress like a senior day." You are never too old to say "No" to drugs!

Carr Lane VPA News & Views November 2022 — Issue No. 19

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 students, teachers and staff throughout the building and across the Internet!