



# Carr Lane News & Views



*December 2024*

*Issue No. 28*

Middle School Here I Come! From across the district, 5th grade students and their teachers visited Carr Lane on October 4, 2024. Some of the building's top 8th grade students were enlisted to serve as guides, leading the visitors on a tour of the building and selected classrooms. Here, the guests are treated to a Spirit Squad performance.



Conducted by Carr Lane's vocal music and piano teacher, Ms. M. Williams, members of the Carr Lane Choir perform for the visiting 5th grade students and their teachers. Someday many of these 5th graders may appear on this stage!

# Parent-Teacher Conferences



Welcome parents and families! Mr. Tellis and Ms. Griffin welcome guests to the first of two, parent –teacher conference nights. This fall the conferences were held afterschool over two days on October 16 and 17, 2024.



**Ms. Bennett-Hart**

**Mr. Risch**



**Ms. Parisi**

**Ms. McGraw**



**Ms. Watson**

**Ms. Bailey**

**Ms. A. Parker**



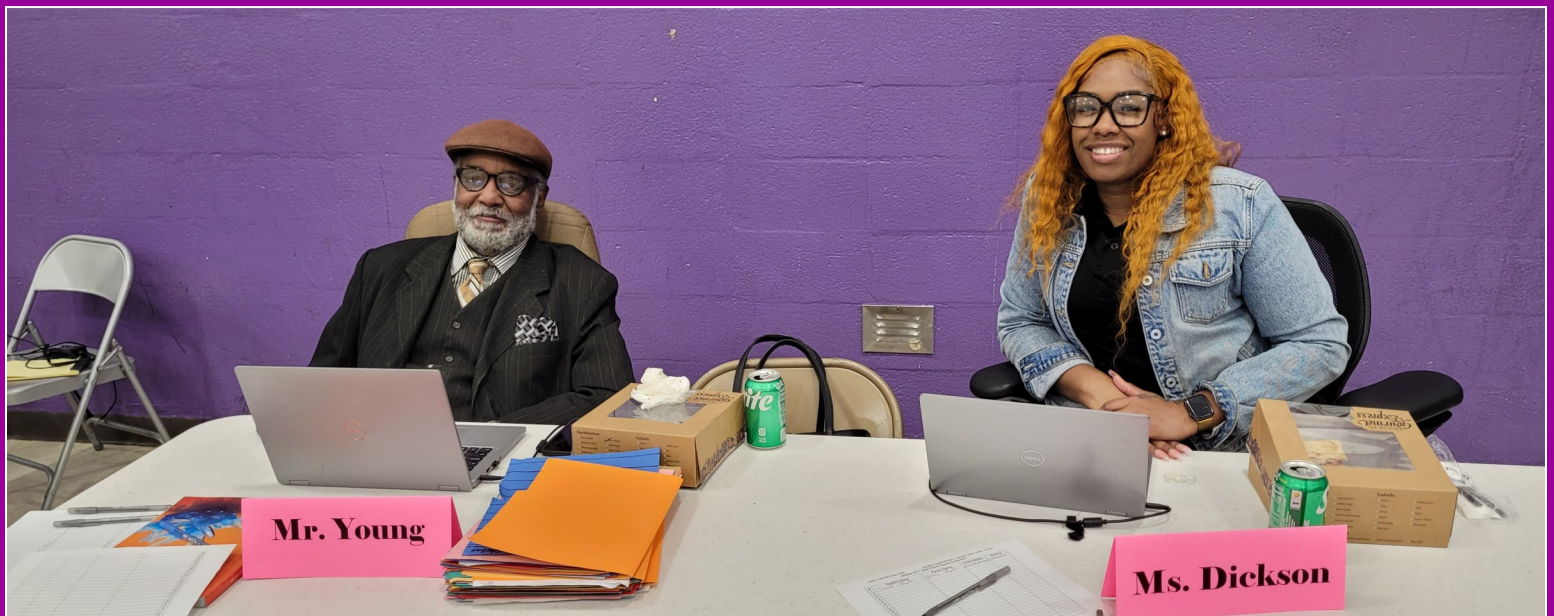
**Ms. Crawford-Bell**

**Ms. Doss**



**Mr. Avant**

**Mr. Herman**



**Mr. Young**

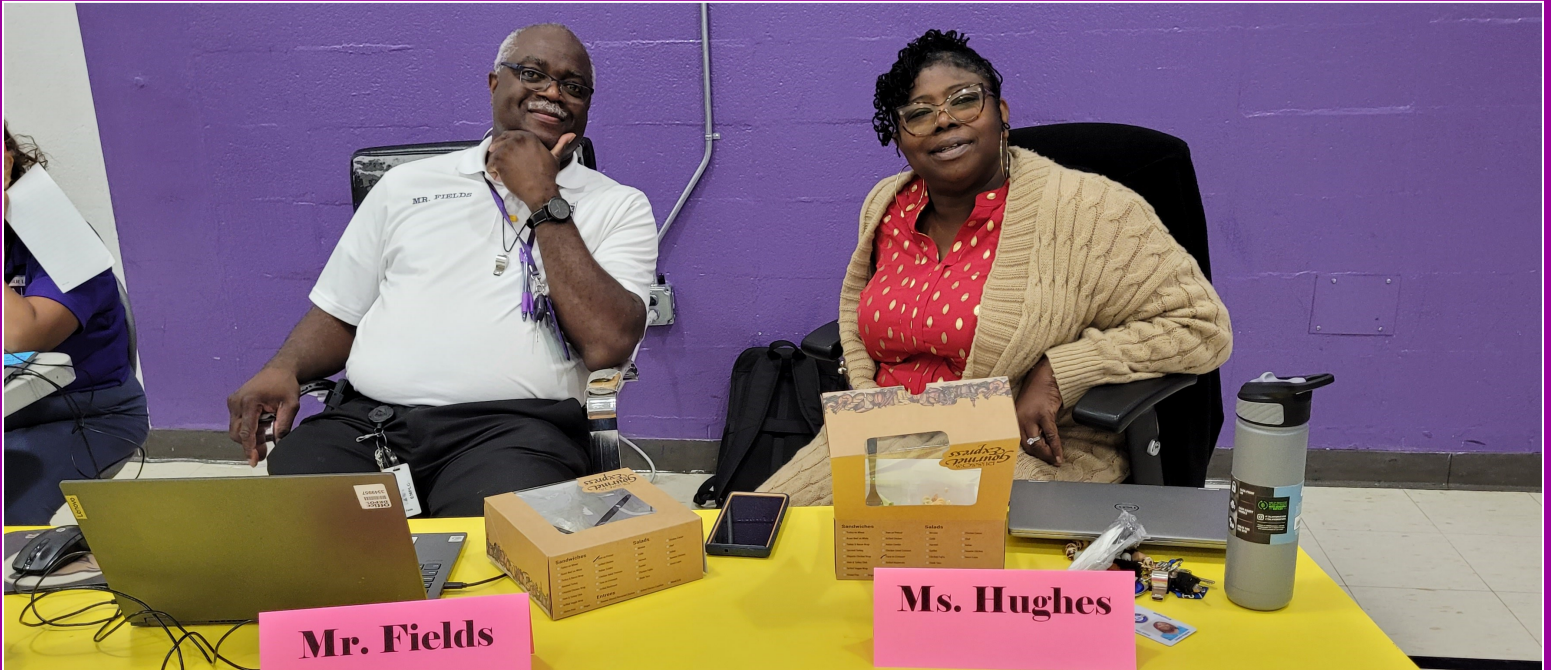
**Ms. Dickson**





**Ms. Shipp**

**Ms. Garwood**



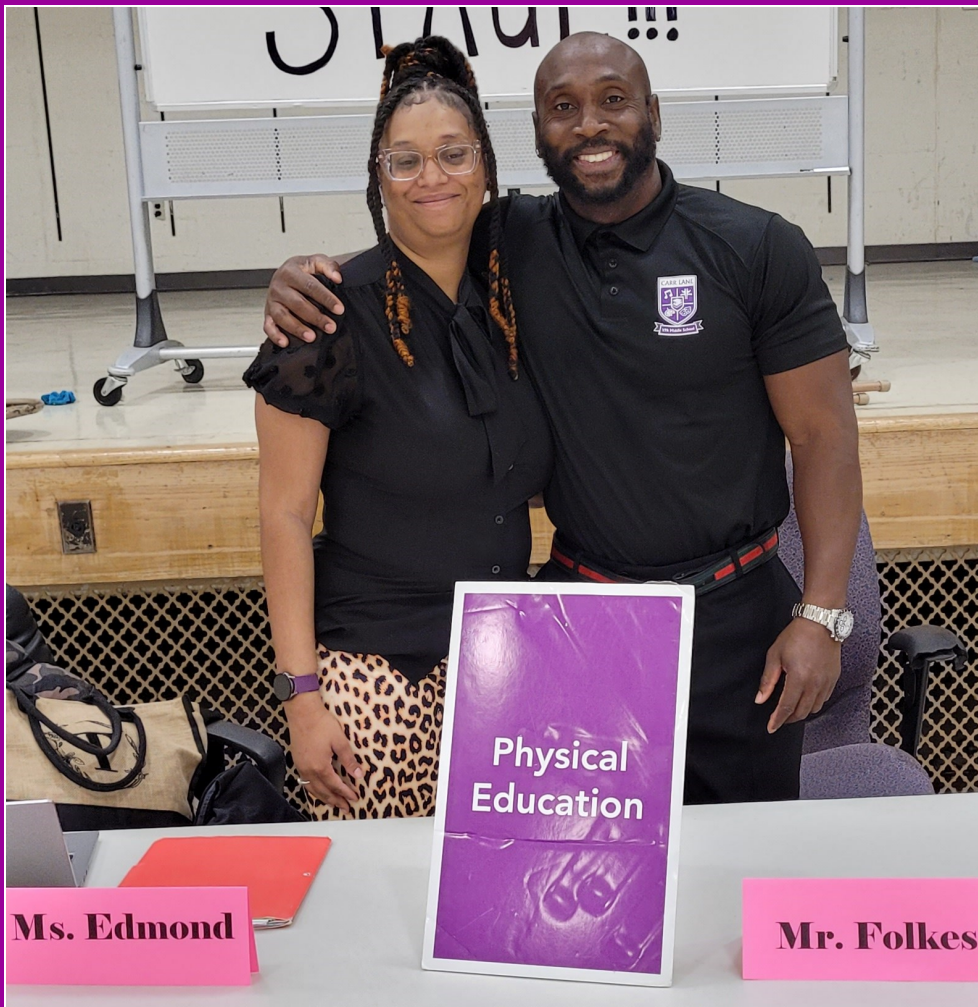
**Mr. Fields**

**Ms. Hughes**



**Mr. Whitfield**

**Mr. Dillard**



**Ms. Edmond**

**Mr. Folkes**



**Ms. Berry**

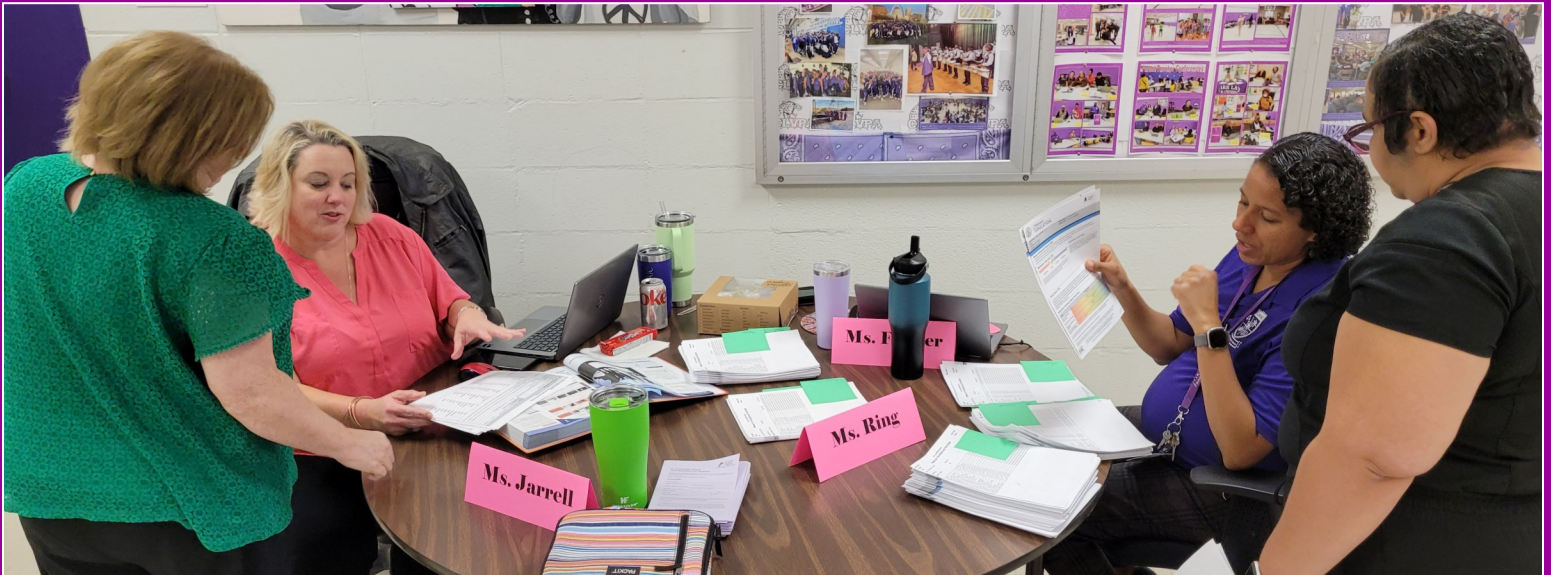
**Ms. Horton**

Last year, before she took over as Carr Lane VPA's Health Teacher, Ms. Edmond, left, was part of Ms. Williams' team. She is pictured here with two, new team members, Ms. Berry and Ms. Horton!



Ms. Hill of Trio, recruits future college students.





# FAVORITE HOLLIDAYS!

*Last October, computer literacy students were assigned a writing assignment. They were to write about a favorite holiday. They were to create a 20 point, centered headline and and a 14 point byline and a justified text body in Times News Roman, 14 point type. Here are some off the results presented by grade level.*

## MY FAVORITE HOLLIDAY

by Zamaury, grade 8

My favorite holiday is Valentines Day because I like candy. I like to buy and get my friends gifts because they are lonely, and they love candy as much as I do. This holiday is important to me because boys are stupid and broke, and girls are independent. We can buy our own stuff. We don't have to be judged on how much we eat because we love food. Also, I would love to buy a lot of chocolate and make a big recess out of it because I love candy. I love candy because it has lots of sugar inside of it. I am the richest candy buyer ever. I live for candy. I always see my family and friends. I go to an event that has lots of hearts and statues. I like the colors and hearts, and decorations I get to put up. The only real thing that is so special about it is that you can spend time with your loved ones and share your candy and prayers with each other.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Santonio, grade 8

My favorite holiday is Christmas. I like Christmas because I like getting gifts and because I like joy. When it is Christmas I see my mom dad, sister, brother, aunt, grandpa and my grandma. When it is Christmas, I go to my family members' house or the mall or outside. For Christmas I usually eat candy yams, candy, corn bread, and snow cones. I would also go traveling to Christmas events like the mall, stores, and other family members' houses and Christmas events. Christmas is important because I get to see family members, meet new people and go to fun places.

I also get presents. I get to see people, get presents, I get to chill. Also, we get to go on Christmas break, so I won't have to go to school. I would get to stay home and sleep and wake up when I want.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Joshua, grade 8

My favorite holiday is my birthday. My birthday is my favorite holiday because that is the day I get to do anything. This birthday I get to go see my dad and younger brother. For my birthday I will be going to a place that has laser tag and trampolines. I will eat pizza, chicken, ice cream cake and juice. The next thing I will do for my birthday is, I will celebrate with my mom and siblings. My birthday is important to me because it is the day I was born. My older sister will take me out to eat the next day. This year I will be turning 14 years old. This year I want to get a 4-wheeler and I want to meet all of my family. I also want to throw a party at the house. I will invite the people that I know.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Kyrie, grade 8

My favorite holiday is my birthday. I see my cousins and I eat ice cream and a food of my choice. I also go to places like Skyzone and the main event and of the holiday is important to me because that's when I get to spend the most time with my family and friends I love when I spend time with my family instead of isolating myself from others every day. I love playing soccer, so I'm gonna devote my life to soccer and my friends and family. I promise them I will make it far enough in life to make sure they live a good and healthy life and when I turn 15, I will get a job and save up 100s and 100s of dollars. When I become rich, I'll give to everyone who was there along the way so they might have the life they deserve. That's why I like my birthday so much; it reminds me who I am.



## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Emani, grade 8

My favorite holiday is Halloween. The reason I picked Halloween is that I get to see my friends. We go to Halloween parties and stuff. We would eat a lot of candy and have fun while watching horror movies. We also would decorate cookies and other candies to pass the time. It's fun because we all get to spend time with each other if we haven't seen each other in a while. We also get to cuddle up in our checkered covers and drink pumpkin spice coffee. We would also dress up and do each other's make-up so we could go trick-or-treating. We also would try to eat our candy before the night was over. We would trade candies and see if we wanted something of theirs that we don't have. This holiday is important to me because I get to have lots of candy and eat it whenever I want with no one to tell me what to do with it except me.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

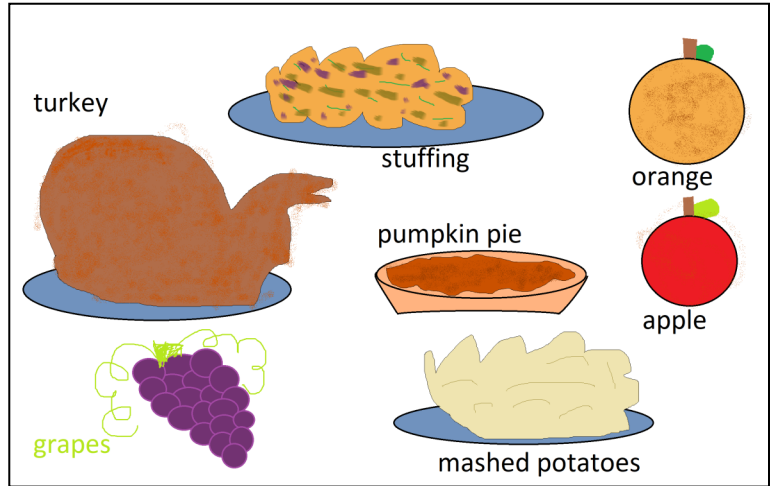
By Eugene, grade 7

My favorite holiday is summer. The reason why is because you can go to the pool and water parks and more, and I think it's the perfect time to go out of town or even the state. It's important to me because it's probably the best time to workout and go outside for a walk or walk your dog. Summer is good for pretty much anything that has to do with going outside. Summer break has a 2-month break from school. It's the best time of the year. No school and all fun (unless you have chores which I don't have to do!) I'm happy about it! What I do in summer is play VR and play on my PC.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Keon, grade 8

My Favorite holiday is Thanksgiving cause I spend time with my family and my friends. I love when my grandma makes her sweet carrot cake or my favorite, lemon cake. Other reasons why Thanksgiving is my favorite is that I get to meet my best TT. She always gives me 5 or 10\$ and I



Thanksgiving Meal by Emani, grade 8

get to meet my TT baby, too. She is very cute and strong, just like me. My other favorite holiday is Halloween. I get a candy rush, and I get to be with the boys. We can have fun and play door knock, and I might be a Yellow Man or a Clown. After we are done trick or treating, I trade my candy for other candy that I like: Kit Kat or Starburst or Milky Way. They're good candies. I don't know why some people hate them. Not me. I love them.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Taqi, grade 8

My favorite holidays are Christmas and Valentine's Day. My family, my sisters and my brothers and I always stay home during the holiday. I don't like going outside for holidays. I like eating sweet yams, macaroni, mashed potatoes and turkey. I like the holidays because I can spend time with my family. It's always a good time on Christmas. I love the spirit of the holiday and really like the chocolate on Valentine's Day. These holidays are important to me because I can see all of my family and get gifts out to my family.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Ahmon, grade 8

My favorite holiday is Halloween. On Halloween I see many people in costumes. There are scary ones. I go to the nice neighborhoods that will have a lot of candy on Halloween. I eat a lot of candy, and what I do on Halloween is scare peo-



Pumpkin Patch by Santonio, grade 8

ple and have fun. I watch scary movies and eat. This holiday is important to me because it's just a nice, fun holiday. Everyone can just dress-up as their favorite characters, such as movie characters, anime characters, or video game characters. Halloween parties have a lot of games and candy. Another reason I like this holiday because you and your friends can dress up as a group of characters like Mario and Luigi and many other characters. People can really live out their fantasy and be whomever they want to be. Halloween is my favorite holiday.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Jayke, grade 8

My favorite holiday is Christmas. I say this because on this holiday I see lots of lights around houses and sometimes we go out and look at all the houses and go to look at everyone's decorations. We also go and look at trees, like the one we looked at last year; it was a big tree. I get to see my family. Sometimes my uncle or aunt would come to spend the night with us. We also leave out cookies for Santa Claus. We put milk out there too. I also get to see a tree with presents underneath it. For Christmas, I stay at my house with my family. I also open presents with my family. This holiday is important because Jesus was born on this day, and we celebrate it because of him. That's the reason why I think my favorite holiday is Christmas.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

by Keyon, grade 8

My favorite holiday is Halloween. I get to see strangers, family and friends. I go to friends' and families' neighborhoods so we can go trick or treating. We eat candy, cakes, chips, and other kinds of sweets. Other things you can do is dress up and run around and play tag or hide and seek. You can just chill with people and meet new people. The reason it is important to me is because you get to go outside and meet new people, and I can see family members I probably haven't seen in a long time. Sometimes I go to places like an event or something, and I can put on scary or cool outfits. If you put on a scary outfit, you can scare people. If you don't, you can decide not to wear a scary outfit and just look cool.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By JaCole, grade 8

My favorite holiday is the 4th of July. When it is the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, I get to blow up and set fire to explosives. I like the big colorful ones, because the colors are always pretty and make me want to blow up more fireworks. When it is the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, my cousins come over for the holiday. If I'm lucky, I can maybe go to their house. When I go to their house, I always have fun. Last 4<sup>th</sup> of July I exploded a lot of things including bottle rockets, cherry bombs, ladybug fireworks, and more, but it's so fun during 4<sup>th</sup> of July. On the 4<sup>th</sup> of July my cousins and I played hide and seek in the dark. During the 4th of July, we mainly eat baked beans, barbeque and Doritos. That is all I like about the 4th of July.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Johnnie, grade 8

My favorite holiday is my birthday because I get 1 year older. I get any Lego set I want. I get to build dragon people and different types of vehicles and creatures. My favorite holiday is my birthday because I get to get off school early to hang out with family and friends. My favorite holiday is my birthday because I can stay up late

and play games, watch TV, and practice throwing axes. I get money on my birthday. I usually eat either cake or pizza, and I share with my brother. I see my mom and dad, my grandma and grandpas' cousins, and other family. I go bowling on my birthday. My favorite holiday is my birthday because it is important to me for personal and mental growth and character development and maturity. And that is why my favorite holiday is my birthday.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By King, grade 8

My favorite holiday is Christmas because we can get all types of things like toys, bikes and other things. Sometimes on Christmas Eve or Christmas day our family will come over or friends will drop by to eat or have fun. Christmas is a holiday where you can open presents and feast, feast on all types of food, like roast beef. When I have Christmas, we first prepare, like set up the food so others don't worry about the tree. We put the tree up during Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is another favorite of mine because we eat, eat, and eat and one thing is I don't get fat so I can eat as long as I want. I'll eat food like the turkey and duck. Everybody usually comes over for Thanksgiving to eat because who doesn't like food, especially when it's free food? Thanksgiving is a holiday to eat before Christmas, but some people eat on Christmas day, too! What is your favorite holiday and what do you like about it?

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Travion, grade 8

My favorite holiday is Christmas. Christmas is my favorite because I get to travel and see my family, and I also get to see my family and reconnect with them. When it was Christmas time my family and I went to Airbnb. The Airbnb had three rooms and had 4 TV's. My grandma, uncles, and aunts all came. We ate sandwiches and had chips and juices. We also sometimes ate chocolate. We also played console games and played on laptops, iPads and iPhones. Christmas is important to me because I get to see all my

family members, such as cousins, uncles aunts and grandparents. I get to meet new members such as younger cousins, and some of my auntie's newborns. I also get to meet my great grandparents. We also had a Christmas tree and had presents under it such as a hoverboard.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

by Zoey, grade 8

Thanksgiving is a great time of year. I see my family and friends. I usually go visit my aunts. We always have turkey, mac and cheese, dressing, greens, sweet potatoes and other delicious food. We always play Uno, charades, spades or trivia. I love this holiday because we always laugh and have wonderful times. We always go to LA to visit cousins and friends. We go shopping to get matching outfits for the holiday and sometimes my family watches the football games and it's always joyful and the food is filled with love and laughter.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Lauvetta, grade 8

My favorite holiday is Halloween. I like this holiday because at night I can go out in a costume that I choose and it can be funny, ugly scary, pretty, etc. I can dress as anything I want. I don't really understand, but some people because some don't do Halloween. Still, the people I do see are my three sisters and my mom and dad. When we go trick or treating we'll go to the block parties. They will always have the best candy and the best stuff, and their houses will be so cool. Some houses will be scary! Before we leave the house, we make sure we eat a lot because we will be out for a long time, so we eat as much as we can. That way, while we're outside, we won't get hungry.

Some of the houses will be giving out food, so we'll eat that as well. Right after we get done trick or treating, we go home and pour out the candy, check it out, and after that's done we will trade our candy for the ones we do want. Then we'll eat some and go to sleep. It's an important

holiday to me because I like getting candy and laughing with my sisters and spending time with them.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Ayden Y, grade 8

The name of my favorite holiday is Christmas. At Christmas I go see my grandparents and my aunties at their houses. The places I go on Christmas are my relatives, such as cousins, aunts, and uncles. On Christmas I eat turkey, sweet ham, potato salad and dressing. Other things I do on Christmas are eat and watch the football and basketball games that come on TV. I watch them with my family. Christmas is an important holiday to me because it brings my family together as one.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By August, grade 8

My favorite holiday is Halloween. On Halloween I am going to go with my family and friends. I go to those fancy houses, and they give us a lot of weird candy. Those in the best houses are having the good candy. We go to a lot of houses and I eat the candy on the way as I get it. Halloween is important because I can have fun with my friends and my family. I can see the coolest houses and scary houses. I can save or eat all my candy, but I wish that they had drinks, too, because my mouth gets dry after all the candy I eat. I don't eat some of the candy they give to us because some of it may be poison.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Keirene, grade 7

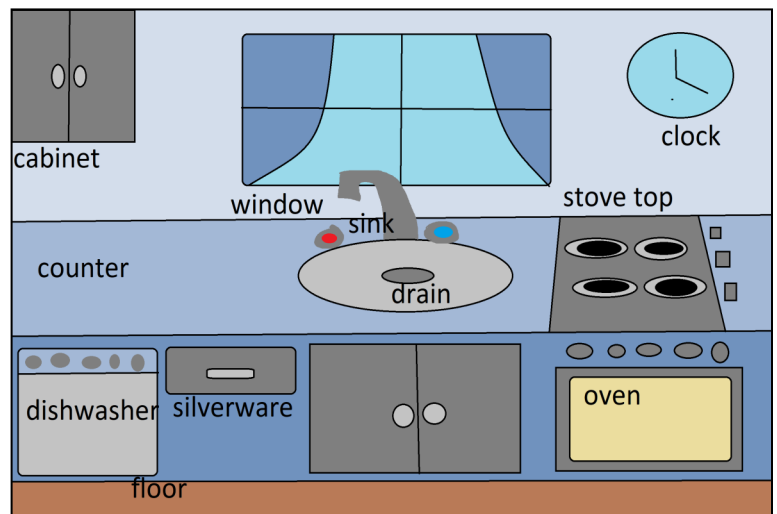
My favorite holiday is Christmas. My Favorite holiday is Christmas because of the tradition of giving and getting. I like to give people stuff and get stuff when the time comes around. Christmas has a warm cozy feeling that I think we all love. Decorating the interior and exterior of your house with Christmas themed items helps to set the mood. The warm smells of candles, cookies and milk, with Christmas movies and a large, decorated tree with ornaments all help us sense

that Christmas is here. When Christmas is around, you eat all festive dinners and deserts, and soul food, like baked mac and cheese, chicken/turkey, greens. For dessert we like cookies, peach cobbler, brownies, ice cream and a lot more. Christmas is my favorite holiday!

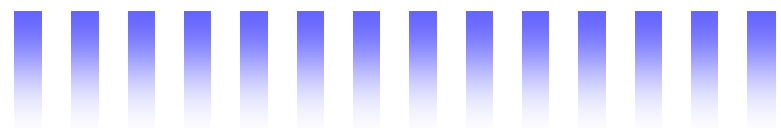
## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Tyme, grade 8

My favorite holiday is Thanksgiving. I like this holiday since it's the time of year when your family comes together and enjoys delicious food, and basks in each other's company. For Thanksgiving, I usually go to my other family members' house, or my parents host it at our house. The food I eat on Thanksgiving includes turkey, ham, macaroni, collard greens, yams, and cranberry sauce. After everyone is done eating, we usually play board games or video games, just enjoying our time together. Thanksgiving is important to me because I get to eat amazing food and enjoy quality time with my relatives. This holiday is dear to me, because it only comes around once a year, like every other holiday, but it's more than that to me. This holiday has a deeper meaning to me, it shows that just a simple day can bring people together, just to have a good time and enjoy one another's company.



Holiday Kitchen, by Emani, grade 8



## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Zariah, grade 8

My favorite holiday is Christmas. It's my favorite because I love the snow and all the vibes. It can be a little too cold, but everything else I love. On Christmas Eve my family and I go to watch the lights: very pretty. On Christmas I see nothing but presents. I love Christmas for the presents, but also for the family time. I eat breakfast in the morning. This year for my Christmas I might go out of town and take a road trip or do something new. I've been out of town other times during the year, but I never went out of town for Christmas. This holiday is important to me because it's Jesus' birthday and it teaches us to appreciate what we have. You visit your other family members, and we do fun things. We also have photo shoots! Conclusion: I love Christmas!

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Savannah, grade 8

My favorite holiday has got to be Christmas. I like Christmas because I get to spend time with family and friends. I get to buy my siblings their dream toy or whatever they want. Christmas is the only real holiday where you get to spend a lot of money and get whatever you want without your parents complaining. The decorations look beautiful, and you can also go see a light show, have snowball fights, or build a snowman. In Missouri the snow isn't really that deep where I live so it might be hard to build a snowman or have a snowball fight. I also like sitting around and drinking eggnog and eating cookies. I know the elf on the shelf isn't real, but it's fun to surprise my siblings and prank them with the elf on the shelf. My favorite thing is waking up on Christmas morning, knowing I have a lot of presents under the tree waiting for me.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Dorian, grade 7

My favorite holiday is my birthday because I can go wherever I want, and I get gifts and I get money. At the end of the day, I can stay up as long as I want. Before my birthday arrives I can

stay up until 12:00 till my birthday comes and then all my cousins get their b-day licks and I try to run away. Next, we go paint balling and then we go to my house, and we eat cake an ice cream. It's a lot of fun.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

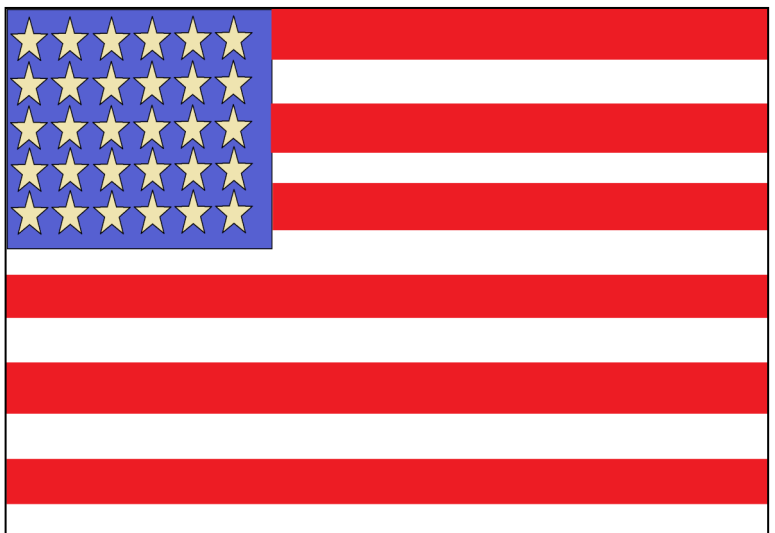
By Serenity, grade 6

My favorite holiday is my birthday, because people will enjoy my birthday, and I will go to the water park and probably go to a candy store. People will say nice things to me and give me the things I want. On my birthday, I can be with my friends and my family, and I can have the best day because it's my birthday. I can really enjoy myself.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Mollie, grade 6

My favorite holiday is 4th of July, because you can pop fireworks. I see my cousins, Annie, uncles, sisters, and brother. I eat the food that my uncle cooks. Sometimes my cousins chase each other with the fireworks. I always watch them every year. I like to eat hamburgers, hotdogs, baked beans, and salad. When the fireworks get close to the house, I always go in the house, so I won't get hit. It's all fun and exciting. That's why I like 4<sup>th</sup> of July.



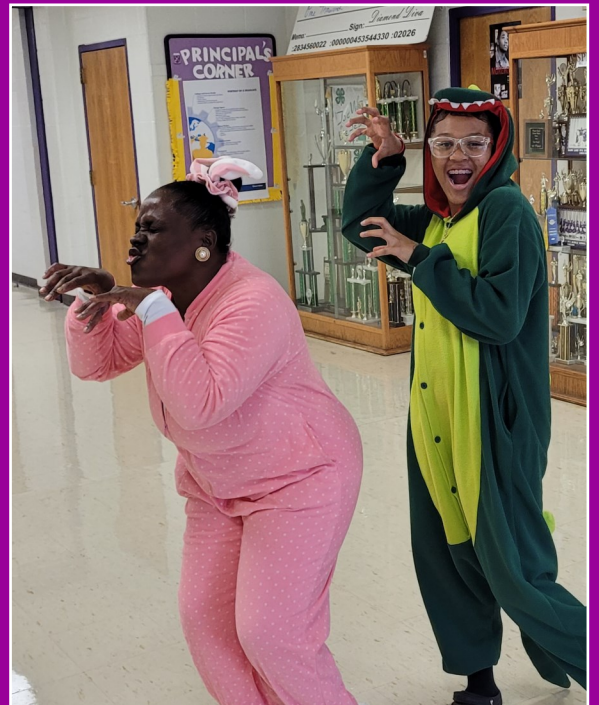
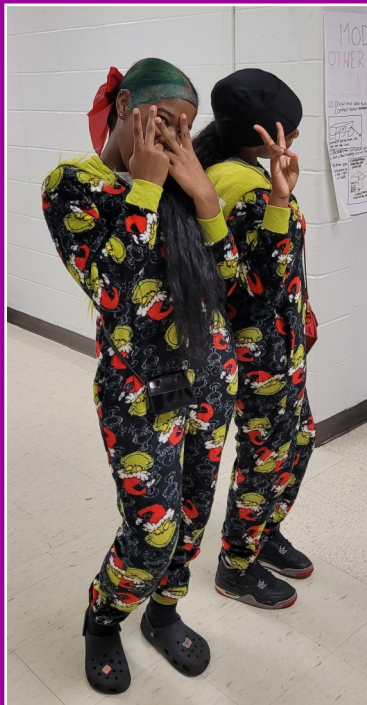
4th of July by Emani, grade 8

# *Carr Lane Celebrates* **RED RIBBON WEEK!**

*Grassroot Beginnings:* Enrique “Kiki” Camarena was a Drug Enforcement Administration Agent who was tortured and killed in Mexico in 1985. In honor of Kiki’s memory and his battle against illegal drugs, friends and neighbors began to wear red badges of satin. Parents then began to form coalitions using Camarena as their model while embracing his belief that one person can make a difference. These coalitions adopted the symbol of Camarena’s memory, the Red Ribbon. Today, the Red Ribbon serves as a catalyst to mobilize communities to educate youth and encourage participation in drug prevention activities.

*from redribbon.org*

PAJAMA DAY! “We’re Dreaming of Being Drug Free!”



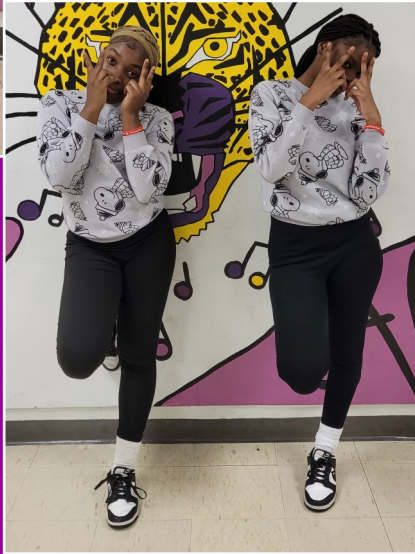




TWIN DAY! *"We're Sticking Together to Be Drug Free!"*

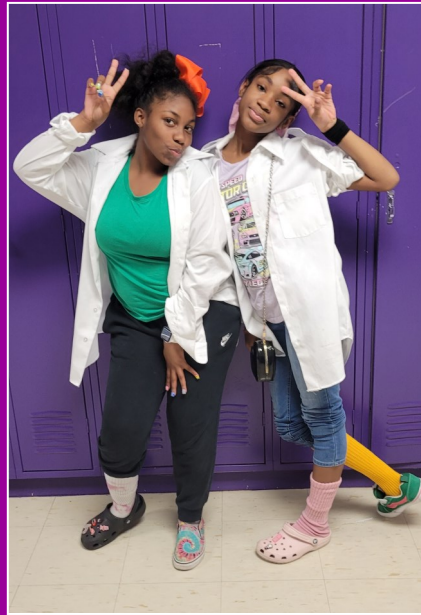








WACKY TACKY DAY! *"It's Tacky to Do Drugs!"*



FALL FESTIVAL COSTUME AND DANCE! *"Fall into Fun and be Drug Free!"*











# SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY!



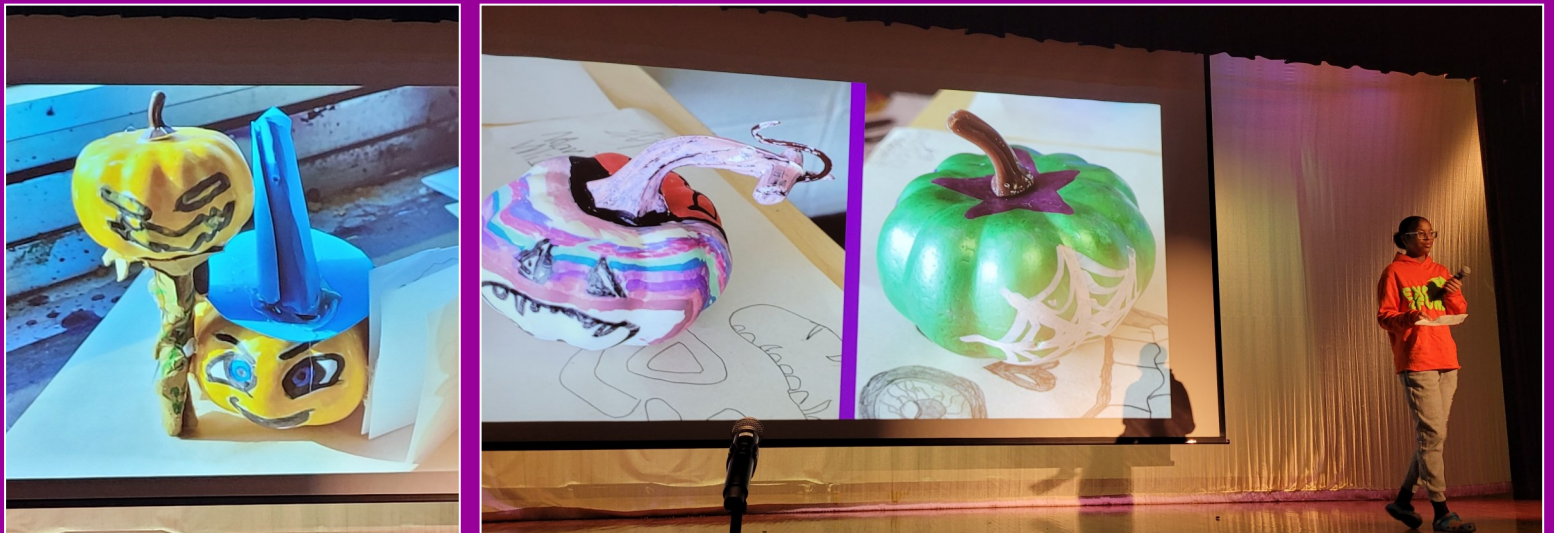
# FALL FEST!



Ms. L. Williams' Visual Art students decorated the Carr Lane stage for Fall Fest on October 30, 2024!



Under the direction of Ms. M. Williams, the Carr Lane VPA Choir performs!



Close-ups of the student-created Pumpkins from Visual Art.

# FALL FEST!



Under the direction of Ms. Tina Parker, the Carr Lane VPA Dancers take the stage!





# VOLLEY BALL!

Thanks to Mr. Folkes for sharing these photos from a Boys' Volley Ball game!



Coach Reed and his team!





Coach Folkes with *Little Man CJ*, who visited on his Fall Break. Carr Lane took a break on 11-22-24 for a week.

# CLVPA SPELLING BEE 24-25!



...And the Carr Lane Winners are: Left to Right: 1st Place, 6th Grader Makhi Curtis; 2nd Place, 8th Grader Ayden Crawford; 3rd Place, Laila Lewis alongside Ms. Fenner



# VISITING ARTISTS!



A visiting artist combines drama and song in a one-person show on the life of Dred and Harriet Scott!



Ms. Tina Parker brings in a professional dancer for a workshop with her students!

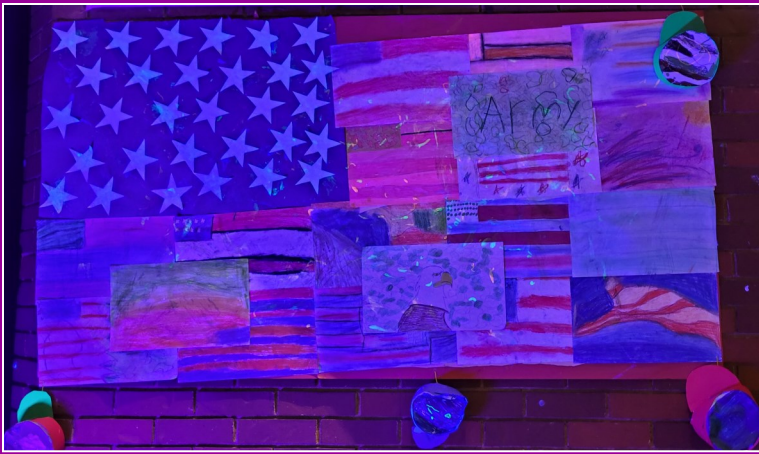
# VETERANS DAY PROGRAM



The Carr Lane Arts Department observed Veterans Day on November 14, 2024. Here, the Carr Lane Choir performs. Special thanks to 8th Grader, Jada Edwards who served as Mistress of Ceremonies for the event. Thanks, also to Mr. Fields who served in the United States Navy. Thanks for addressing the audience and for your service to the country!



Grand piano showcase before a solemn and respectful audience.



The stage, decorated by Visual Art students and a Tribute to Veterans Day AV presentation from Computer Science!



Students, teachers, families and friends watch Carr Lane VPA's Dancers perform!



Triumphant finale to *Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy of Company B* and a stirring, closing address from Mr. Fields!



# CLVPA SPIRIT SQUAD!

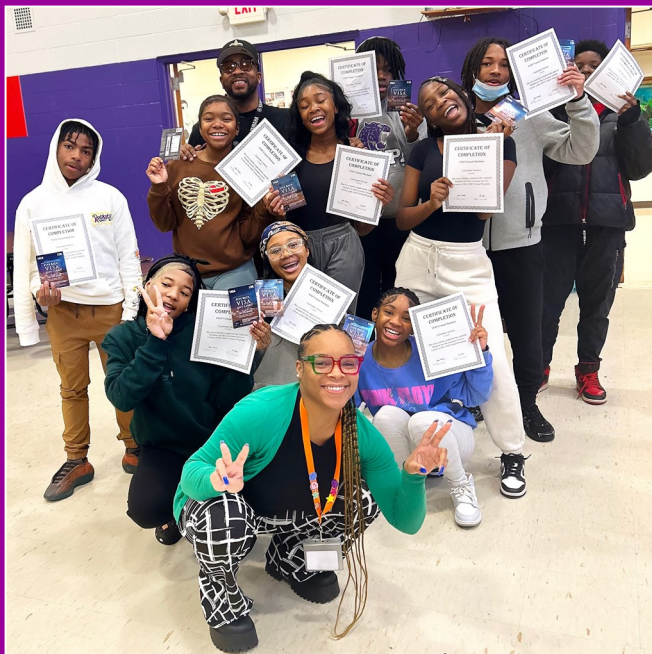
## GATEWAY "RED RIBBON" WEEK 24!



During Red Ribbon week, Ms. Parker and Mr. Tellis took the Spirit Squad across Carr Street to Gateway to perform for the Elementary School Students.



Ms. Shipp's 8th Grade Social Studies students embark from school on an overnight trip to the Missouri State Capital in Jefferson City. It was all part of *The Youth in Government Program*. Several participating students won awards!





On the capital steps, our Carr Lane group is to the left. All field trip photos courtesy of Mr. Tellis!



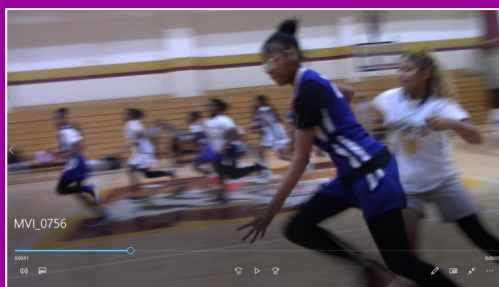
At Soldan High, the Carr Lane VPA Cheerleaders warm-up on 12-7-24, the start of the 2024-2025 basketball season!



**Left:** Coach Reed and the Boys' Team, moments before game time. **Right:** In addition to Ms. Tina Parker, who was at the official's station, we saw Ms. Griffin and Mr. Harris (along with Fred's sisters, Joyce and Mollie). Of course, Mr. Ford was there to coach his Girls' team to victory. We also saw Ms. Shipp, Ms. Garwood and Ms. Hughes!



Ms. Ship and the coach of the Jaguar Cheerleaders; Ms. Ship and Kyrie after the Boys' first win; Ms. Hines and her son, Jayke. Lots of parents, families and friends turned-out to support the Boys' and Girls' Basketball Teams!



Screen shots from the Girls' Game Video! (More Girls' and Boys' Jaguar Basketball action, next issue!)



**Carr Lane VPA News & Views -- December 2024 — Issue No. 28<sup>REV</sup>**

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, students, teachers and staff throughout the building. For their contributions to this issue, special thanks to Ms. D. Williams, Ms. Fenner, Mr. Fields, Mr. Tellis, and Coach Folkes! And thanks to Computer Science students Jayke, Tyme, King, Kayden and former CS student, Jayla! Have a safe, joyous and restful winter break. We'll see the students back at Carr Lane Visual and Performing Arts Middle School on Monday, January 6, 2025. See you then!

