

# Carr Lane VPA News & Views



January 2024

No. 24

Under the direction of Ms. M. Williams, The Carr Lane Concert Choir performs at fall festival. Here, they are accompanied by 8th grader, Denim Browder on chello and Ms. Hill of Trio on piano.



Staff members gather in the auditorium for the Fall Festival. Pictured left to right in back: Ms. Ownes, Ms. A. Parker and Mr. Folkes. Front row: Ms. Parisi, Ms. D. Williams, Ms. Jarrell and Ms. C. Williams.



Members of the Drum Line perform.



Some of Ms. M. Williams' piano students take the stage.



Mr. Walker conducts his strings students!



Ms. Parker's Dance students perform!



Carr Lane Red Ribbon Week & Halloween 2023!





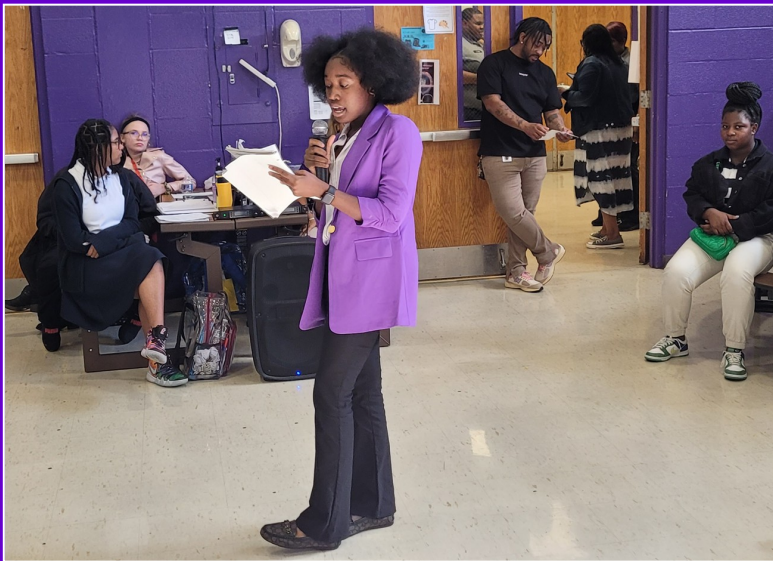




Halloween Dance!



Zakiyyah with her successful campaign poster for a spot in Carr Lane VPA student leadership!



**Left:** Damara Elgin addresses the student body in her campaign for Student Body President. Over three lunch periods, arranged by Carr Lane Student Government Sponsor, Mr. Avant, candidates delivered campaign speeches to the entire student body. Ms. Elgin was successful in her run. **Right:** A week later she addresses the students of Carr Lane during the morning announcements as the head of their representation in student government.

### 2023-2024 Executive Leadership Board

*Student Body President* – Ms. Damara Elgin; *Student Body Vice President* – Ms. Zakiyyah Woods;  
*Student Body Secretary* – Ms. Khaillie Moorehead-Bey; *Student Body Treasurer* – Mr. Charles Brown



# TRIP TO JEFFERSON CITY



Ms. Shipp and her 8th grade students on the Jefferson City capital steps in November



View of the House Floor



Departure from Carr Lane







### Proud Award Winners

Thirteen 8th graders attended the Youth and Government Conference in Jefferson City over the weekend. The students learned about the legislative process and their civic duties. They represented Carr Lane as the only SLPS school in attendance, winning several awards.

#### **Outstanding Bill Proposal:**

- Eulyssa Arnold — Ending Homelessness
- Christian Currie — Mandatory Black History Education
- Skilar Wallace and Damara Elgin — Voter Registration Education

#### **Outstanding Statesperson:**

- Jairus Nesbitt

Ms. Shipp and Mr. Tellis are extremely proud of all their hard work!

*Brianna Shipp, M.A. 8th Grade Social Studies, Carr Lane VPA*

*Recently, in their computer literacy classes students were asked to pick a holiday or special day of the year and write and type a paragraph for publication.*

## FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Ijahnae Rhodes, 8A

Who I see for Christmas is my nana my grandfather, brother and sister. We love to have hot chocolate and watch Christmas movies. I go to is my nana's house with my siblings and sometimes we have Nerf wars. What will I do on Christmas day or Christmas Eve? My favorite holiday is Christmas Eve. We will open one present before we go to sleep and watch one more movie. On Christmas day we would have popcorn and open our presents. The reason why this holiday is so important to me is that I barely see my nana during the year. She only comes around for holidays. She is so nice, caring and sweet; so, that is why this holiday is important to me. Also, I love the giving and Christmas carol spirit. I love giving away to people in need, because you never know what goes around, comes around.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Jairus Nesbitt, 8A

My favorite holiday is Christmas. I get to spend a lot of time with my family. Sometimes we go to my granny's house. Sometimes we will just stay at my house and wait for family to come over. One year we went out of town for Christmas. During Christmas I love to see my cousins and uncle and aunts. We all love to bake: whether it be cake, cookies or brownies. My mama makes the best pound cake. Another reason presents in my family we love to give presents to each other. We have a thing called the grab bag. We start from youngest to oldest. We get small gifts from the bag. The small gifts may contain cups all the way to money!

We all love to cook. We normally have chicken, turkey, dressing, mostaccioli, mac and cheese and greens. It's the best!

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Zoriona Mclemore, 8A

My favorite holiday is thanksgiving because it is near my birthday. I love the cold weather and watching the leaves turn orange, red, yellow and brown. This holiday is special to me because I remember when I was young, I always disliked the fact that I was born in November. I hate the fact that people would skip over from Halloween to Christmas because they never really saw Thanksgiving but a "food holiday." I was insecure about my birth month. I soon saw the importance and value of my birth month. It is when school is out. It's near Thanksgiving. I have the same birthday as President Joe Biden and so much more. The best food is macaroni. I like falling asleep after stuffing my face with as much food as I want. I love how I can go over to the homes of different family members to get lots of plates of food. Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday, I will always love it.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Anylah Jones, 8A

My favorite holiday is Christmas. The reason why is that I get gifts, but I also give other people gifts. Christmas is the time of year when I get a break from school. I also get to spend time with my family that I don't see often because they live far away. About two or three days before Christmas my mom and I cook for my family. We cook pies, cakes, and all types of other things. The best thing about Christmas is when I get to go to the store and find gifts for my family and friends. This is the best thing about Christmas, because I like to

pick out things for my family and friends without them knowing what I got. Christmas is the only time I get everything that I want and more. On a regular day, I might get one pair of shoes, but for Christmas, I can get as many pairs of shoes that I want!

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Jacquoin Martin, 8A

I don't have a favorite holiday because all the holidays are really the same. You can spend time with your family, eat, chill, play games and talk about stuff. My cousin and uncle are always the ones that are cooking. Or, sometimes it's granny. Her food is good: like on Thanksgiving it's gonna be a family thing. Everybody gonna come to my house and will be talking and playing games. The grown folks will be playing cards like always. My uncle gonna be making hot dogs and the kids gonna be outside running around playing with each other. We will have to wait a long time for the food to get done, but when it does get done everybody is going to be ready to eat, and the food will good as ever, and we will be having homemade cakes and stuff, too!

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Darnell Williams, 8A

My favorite holiday is Christmas. One time on Christmas I woke up excited thinking about the gifts I got, and I also noticed my other siblings were up at the time I was. We all received our gifts from our mother and father. They would usually come in the rooms and hand it to us. After getting our gifts, we would open them up and see what it was. After seeing that we would hug our parents. When I got my stuff, I used up most of the morning up seeing how to work the stuff and use the stuff that I got. I would eat breakfast and lunch later and I

would either text my friends to see what they got or just play with my stuff. At around 5-7 pm I would get ready and we go to my grandma's house where my cousins, aunties, and uncles would be. We would eat dinner and play card games or some type of game. Then, at around 9-10 we would go home. That's why my favorite holiday is Christmas. The holiday is important to me because I get what I want and I spend time with my whole family.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Keshay Norwood, 8A

My favorite holiday is Christmas. What you see is crazy lights, Christmas trees, snow and gifts. And you go to the north pole to see Santa Claus. What you eat is turkey with stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, cranberry sauce, and vegetables. What else you do is celebrate on the 25th of December each year, Make ginger bread cookies, have ugly sweater contests, watch Christmas movies and have a candy cane hunt. Christmas is important to me because Christmas is celebrated to remember the birth of Jesus Christ, who Christians believe is the Son of God. It is also important me because I get gifts and give other people gifts and I celebrate with my family. The name "Christmas" comes from the "Mass of Christ." Two more things I like about Christmas: you can go outside and play in the snow and make snow angels. You also get a lot of gifts from your family members.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Charles Brown, 8A

My favorite holiday is Halloween. Halloween is my favorite holiday, because I love candy. There are so many different types of candy to choose from: chocolate, sweet, sour and so many more. What I love most about Hallow-

een is going to people's houses and telling them jokes. This year I got a bunch of candy because most people just put candy bowls out and I took a lot of candy. This year my best friend and I went on our own, and we were going to "ding dong ditch" somebody, but we forgot. I used my lunchbox as my candy bag, and I got filled to the top with all the candy I received. I still have the candy from Halloween. This year I just put anything together and it worked. I had a Grim Reaper cloak, a Cowboy hat, and a bandanna, so I was a sheriff or something. That's why I love Halloween!

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Elijah Pendleton, 8A

My favorite holiday is Christmas. Why? Because I like to get presents. I like to spend time with my family. Some years we go to Texas to see my aunt for Christmas. We go out to eat at restaurants while we are there. Then, on Christmas we eat. Then, we open presents. Then we go do something fun. Afterwards, we go back to the house to play some games and talk. We take pictures of the family members that are with us. We take another 13 hour trip back home to St. Louis. I have some more presents waiting at my dad's house. I have fun with my sister and play games with my sister. My sister and I have a PS4, so we can both play the game together. I go back home to eat some more food and play my game by my self. Finally, I go back to school

## MY 2 FAVORITE HOLIDAYS

By John Crawford, 8A

One of my favorite holidays is Thanksgiving. It's a favorite because you get to have all the family come to see you and you eat a bunch of great food. Another plus for Thanksgiving is that we don't have any school for the whole

week. That's nine days counting the weekends. Still, the best part of Thanksgiving is that you can eat turkey with all the trimmings!

My second favorite holiday is Christmas. You get to have free gift from Santa Claus himself (aka your mom and dad.) You can ask for anything: a dog, cat, a pitbull and a golden retriever or a husky! Ask for a new PS5, an Xbox, or an Nintendo! How about a Beyblade Burst and Roblox gift card?! That's some of the great things you can get for Christmas. Also, you can play in the snow, have a snow ball fight with your friends and make snow cone flavors like cheery and raspberry. Finally, you are shovel snow off the side walk and get money for it.

## MY FAVORITE HOILDAY

By Aiiyah Hall, 8B

My favorite holiday is my birthday. The reason it's my favorite holiday is that it's all about me and I get to have everything I want. When it's my birthday I see my whole family, or I spend it with my friends. Every time it's my birthday I get to choose where we are going because it's my day. I can decide on whether it's going to be a restaurant or an arcade. Something else I do is have a sleepover. I go to my friend's house, or I go out of town. This holiday is important to me because it shows who I am, and it shows how many years I have been on the earth. Also, my zodiac sign is a Pisces. The animal associated with my zodiac sign is a fish. All the people I get to see are very important to me, and they love me so very much.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By A'Riya Lambert, 8B

My favorite holiday is Christmas. I love Christmas because I get to see my family. Although it is my favorite holiday, I do not like



the weather that comes with this holiday. My family and I do not go to a specific place, but most of the time we celebrate this holiday at my granny's or my uncle's house. We also don't eat anything specific but, someone will always cook. Other than opening presents we also play family games like *Heads Up* and *Charades*. This holiday is important to me because I can spend time with my family and be happy while my family and I open gifts. When this holiday comes it is so exciting to get things you have wished for and having such a shock when you finally get what you've wished for. It's so exciting when you play family games and bond over talking and catching-up with one another. I love it!

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Ziya Johnson, 8B

Hi my name is Ziya and my favorite holiday is my birthday. My birthday is June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009. **BIG GEMINI NOT THE LITTLE ONE!!** My birthday is my favorite because its a day all about me and I get gift and cake. On my birthday I see my family and friends and act like a fool. Usually, we do have a house party or go out to eat or like an arcade. I remember one time I went out to eat with my family and I had some hot wings they was so good. Every time its my birthday my family be jumping me to get they birthday licks. My body be sore all day. I remember me and my friends went skating and it my first time and I kept falling I was so embarrases an crush was there, but ask for my number so I guess it didn't matter.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

by Donald Hubbard, 8B

The names of the holidays I chose are Halloween and Christmas. On Christmas I like to open presents and watch my siblings open

there but this Christmas in going shopping because I don't really like toys. I like going to my aunt's house to see all my cousins and we be having Christmas parties and eating that Christmas dinner. Then we will just play the game but me personally I think I'm better than my cousins.

My second holiday choice was Halloween because I like the candy and all the scary effects that are being displayed. I also like asking my brother to give me some of his candy, because I don't like going trick or treating, I think that I'm too old. This year I didn't go trick or treating.. Next year I'm definitely going trick treating because my brother was able to get more candy than me, and I didn't like that. My birthday is like a holiday to me. I also like New Years, because I can have a New Year's resolution!

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Harmony Cotton, 8B

My favorite holiday would be my birthday because on your birthday you become another age. You also celebrate by doing your favorite activities and other things. Celebrating your birthday is like celebrating Christmas because you get gifts and get to be around family. Also, there are cookies, ice cream and cake.

On my birthday I went to Airban Air and also went to the AMC theater. After the AMC we went to the mall for back-to-school shopping. I got stuff that I wanted for my birthday like shoes, phone cases, new Mac Book, an iPad, hoodies, shirts, head-bands, press-on-nails and other things. I saw a couple of friends from school and old, old friends from elementary school. I asked their mom if it was okay for us to have a SLEEPOVER. After that everybody went home, and that was the end of my birthday.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Ka'Miya Lewis, 8B

My favorite holiday is Christmas, because there are so many different good things about Christmas. One of my favorite things about Christmas is the weather. I love how it's always cold. The weather really helps bring in the Christmas spirit. You can also get Christmas. Christmas is one of the best days because it's also the birthday of Jesus. That's very important to many people on earth.

Another thing I love about Christmas is the music. I love Christmas music so much that I listen to it at all times of the year. Just when it was two days before Halloween I was listening to "All I Want for Christmas" by Mariah Carey. I love that Christmas is (if not *THE* best) at least *ONE* of the best holidays in the world! You can decorate your house with all kinds of things. And the best part is seeing the Christmas gifts under the Christmas tree. The sight of that makes my heart melt. It makes me very happy; I love that. I can't wait for Christmas this year!

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Olivia Soler, 8B

My birthday is my favorite holiday and Christmas, too. My birthday is one of my favorite holidays because that was the day I was born. That was my first day on earth. I like my birthday because I can spend time with my friends, and there is a lot of things you can do on your birthday. You can get gifts, and you can also spend time with your family.

Christmas is one my favorite holidays, because it is an important day on earth to a lot of people. Just like my birthday, I can spend time with my family and friends. One of the things I

really like about Christmas is the Christmas trees and the lights. I love Christmas lights and the colors like red and green. I love the gifts I get on Christmas and how I can make a list and can put anything I want on that list. I love the food and the music, and matching P.J.s! These are some reasons why I love Christmas and why Christmas is a favorite holiday.

## MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

By Reilly Smith, 8B

My favorite holiday would have to be Halloween! Halloween is important to me because it's in the same month of my birthday. On Halloween I like to eat the candy I earn, even though it's worse for me to eat it than others. On Halloween, I like to see my best friend; Zoey and her family, as we go Trick-or-Treating. This has been our tradition for six whole years! I like to go Trick-or-Treating near my old neighborhood, as it was a good place to get candy. Fun fact: the name for Halloween comes from Pope Gregory III, who designated November 1<sup>st</sup> as All Saints' Day, a day in which saints were celebrated. Soon, All Saints' Day began to throw some Samhain traditions in, making the day before November 1<sup>st</sup> into All Hallows Eve, which became Halloween. Make sure to have a happy Halloween next year, and stock up on candy!



# Basketball Season!



Left: Coach Washington and her team. Right: Tyme prepares to shoot.



The Carr Lane Cheerleaders, the Girls' CLVPA Team and Carr Lane Fans in the house!



Carr Lane 8th Grade Fans turn-out to show their support!



The heroic Ms. T. Parker shows-up to help the teams!



Taking the stage!



CJ supports the Jaguars!



Coach Young and his Jaguar Boys' Team



On the court!



Carr Lane Fans in the Stands with Mr. Tellis!

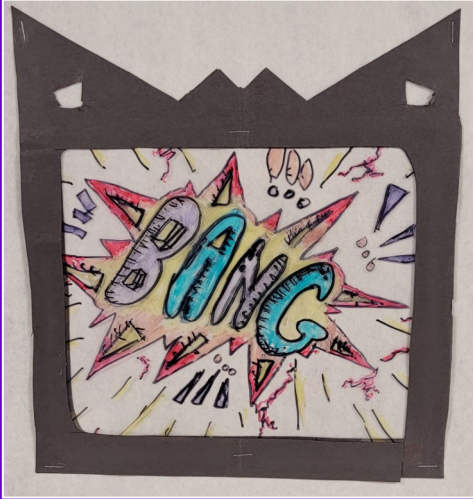


Left: It was simple work for the CLVPA Ladies. Right: Ms. Bailey lends her support to the cause!

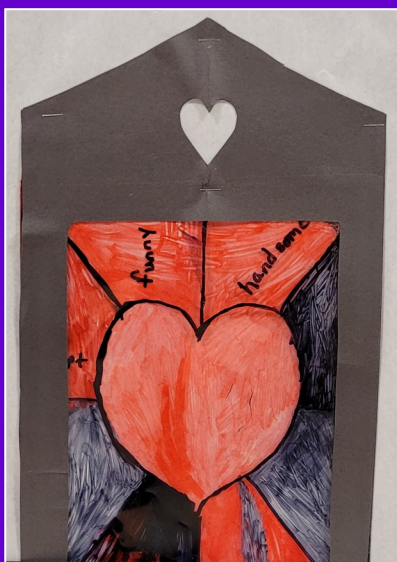


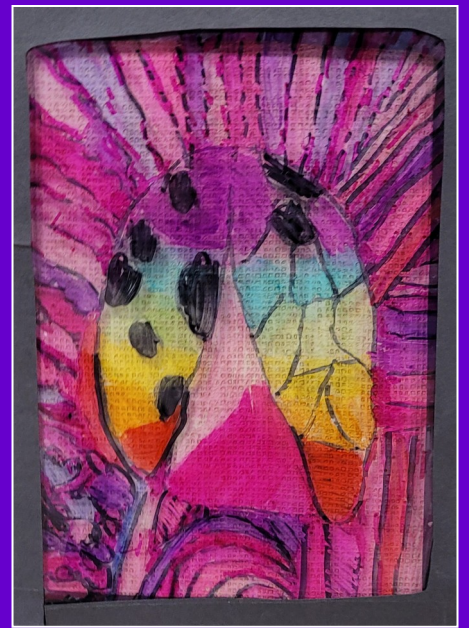
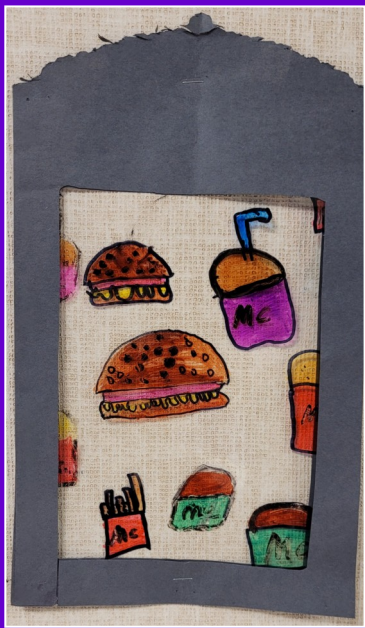
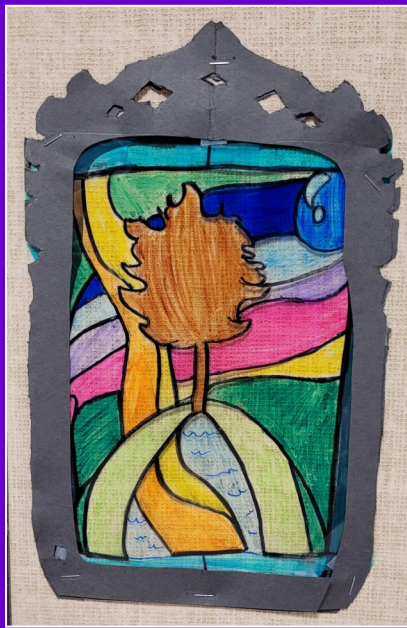
Jayke drains another 3-pointer. In the 2nd period, the CLVPA Boys dominated and nearly won back the day!

It's *Visual Art* from Ms. L. Williams Art Classes! The "V" in CLVPAMS!









# TRIP TO JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT!



Ms. Cotton took a large group of 6<sup>th</sup> Graders to J.A.!





Sweater Day: a great celebration of Jaguar FamilyTeam Spirit!

# A New Computer Lab on the 3rd Floor!



Thanks to Mr. Tellis who introduced Dr. Phoenix to this amazing team of volunteers and to Ms. Dickson who caught this picture of an overjoyed Computer Teacher with the group! Happy day for those who love high-tech!



A gift from the NHL St. Louis Blues and volunteer insatllers from the *Stifel/Community*! The volunteers gave their time to help install a new, state-of-the-art Computer Lab on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor! Thank you from Jaguar Nation!

# DECK THE HALLS!

## DOOR DECORATING COMPETITION!



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# **DECK THE HALLS!**

## **DOOR DECORATING COMPETITION!**



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# DECK THE HALLS!

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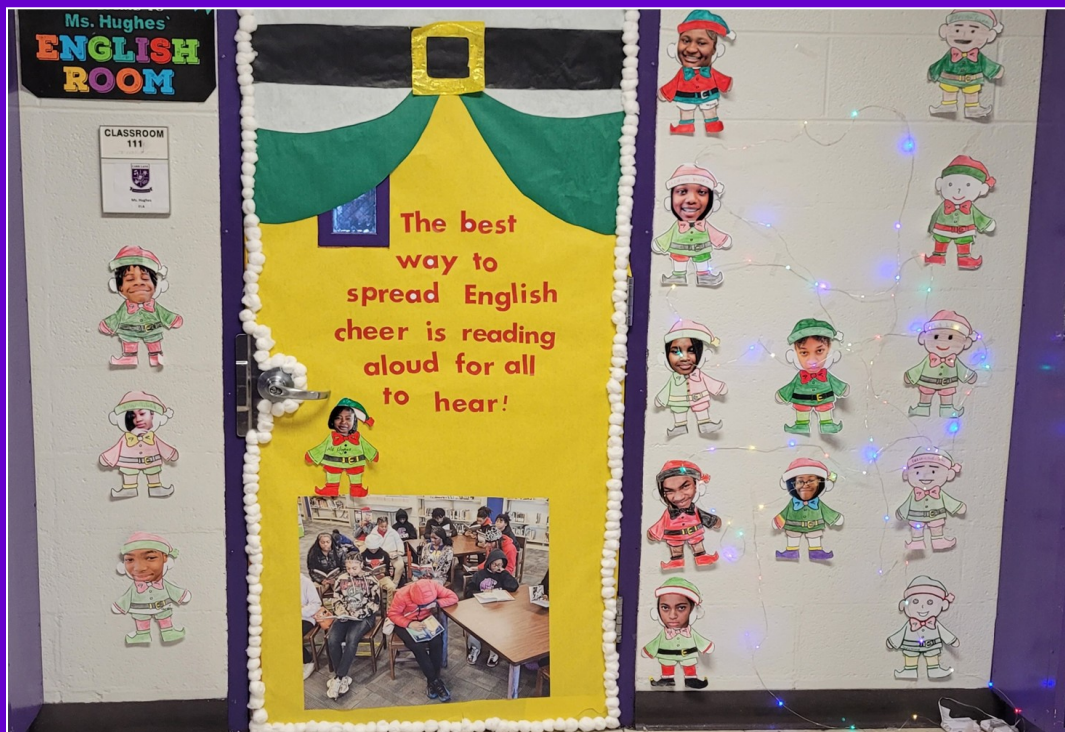
...and the winners are...



Ms. Cotton, 3rd Floor



Ms. Bailey, 2nd Floor



Ms. Hughes, 1st Floor

### Carr Lane VPA News & Views -- January 2024 — Issue No. 24

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! For this issue: special thanks to Mr. Tellis, Mr. Folkes, Ms. Cotton, Ms. Shipp, Ms Dickson and *The Student Tech Crew*: Jaden, Zakiyyah, Aaron, Jayke, Tyme and Jeyla!