

MR. ELLIS' CHAMPS

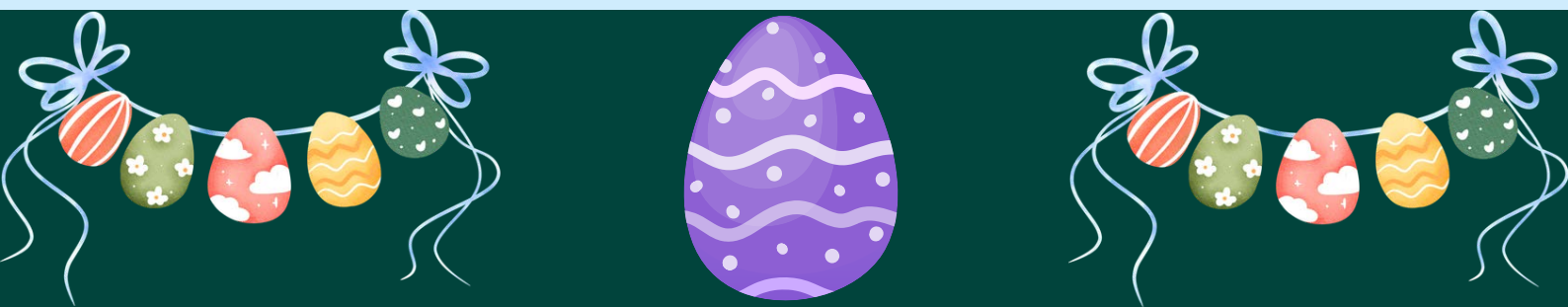


April 2026

CSA EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Instructional Focus/Learning Targets

- **Math:** The instructional learning targets of the CSA middle school math curriculum focus on developing students' proficiency in key mathematical areas such as ratios, geometry, algebraic expressions, and statistics, while fostering critical thinking, problem-solving, and real-world application skills. The curriculum is designed to prepare students for high school math and beyond by encouraging a deep understanding of mathematical concepts.
- This month, students will be exploring concepts of geometry (Foundations Math), probability and statistics (Applied Math); functions, exponents and scientific notation (Intro to Integrated Math), basics of Geometry, reasoning and proofs and parallel and perpendicular lines (Integrated I Math); and relationships with triangles, quadrilaterals, and similarity (Integrated II Math).
- **Literature (Pod A):** Students are wrapping up their reading unit on *Out of My Mind*, where they have explored themes of voice, identity, and perseverance through close reading and discussion. The unit culminates in a reflective essay that allows students to demonstrate their understanding of the novel while supporting their ideas with evidence from the text. As they complete this work, the class is transitioning into a new unit centered on *The Watsons Go to Birmingham*, where they will continue building comprehension and analytical skills while examining historical context, family dynamics, and the impact of significant events on individuals and communities.



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- **Science (Pod A):** Over the next month, students will take on the role of student thermal scientists working with the principal of a fictional school to solve a real-world problem: choosing the best heating system to warm the building. The unit is anchored by a compelling phenomenon in which the principal is considering two systems and students must determine which will be more effective. To explain this, students investigate how temperature changes occur at the molecular level and how energy is transferred within and between systems until thermal equilibrium is reached. Through hands-on investigations and interactive simulations that make invisible molecular motion visible, students build understanding of these ideas and apply them to the heating system challenge.
- **Social Studies (Pod A):** This month, students will be exploring key parts of our government, including the Bill of Rights, political parties, special interest groups, and Congress. We will examine the first ten amendments and how they protect individual freedoms, as well as how political parties and interest groups influence decision-making and public policy. Students will also learn about the structure and role of Congress, including how laws are made and the responsibilities of elected officials. Through these topics, students will gain a better understanding of how citizens' rights are protected and how different groups and institutions shape our government.



APRIL SHOWERS
Bring
MAY FLOWERS

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- **Comprehensive Student Reviews (CSRs):** Comprehensive Student Reviews provide an important opportunity for families and teachers to partner in supporting each child's growth and success. During these scheduled meetings, parents will sign up to meet with their child's teachers to discuss academic progress, as well as physical and sensory needs, social and emotional development, and character growth. Teachers will share and review assessment data to give a clear picture of each student's strengths and areas for improvement. Together, families and educators will collaborate to set meaningful goals for the remainder of the school year, ensuring that each child is supported holistically and set up for continued success.

- Ellis Sign Up Link:

<https://calendar.app.google/9SFey4Ac3mNFBQ8V8>



april

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RESCHEDULED Career Day: We are excited to announce our school's third annual Career Day, aimed at providing valuable insights into various professions and helping guide our middle school students toward their future careers. We believe that exposing our students to various career paths early on can positively impact their academic choices and future endeavors.

Your participation at this event is crucial in making it a success!

We are seeking Presenters to share their career journeys, educational experiences, and valuable advice with our students. Our goal is to inspire and inform students about the myriad of career possibilities that await them! If you, a family member, friend, or community contact are interested in presenting during our Career Day, we extend a warm invitation to join us:

Date: Friday, May 8th, 2026

Time: 9 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Location: Charyl Stockwell Academy Middle School

Kindly RSVP by April 24th, 2026 by completing this [FORM](#). If you have any questions, please reach out to Amanda Woodruff at awoodruff@csaschool.org. Please inquire if you require any assistance or accommodations.

Note: All presenters must have a valid background check on file with the front office before May 1st. Expect a follow-up email with this documentation.

We look forward to seeing you at our school's Career Day and appreciate your support in shaping the future aspirations of our middle school students.



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UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Monday, April 6th: School Resumes after Spring Break. Term 3 Enhancements Begin

Wednesday, April 8th: Rollerama Field Trip

Thursday, April 23rd: Comprehensive Student Reviews (CSRs)- NO School

Friday, April 24th: Comprehensive Student Reviews (CSRs)-NO School

Tuesday, April 28th: MSTEP Reading Part 1 for 1st and 2nd Years

Wednesday, April 29th: MSTEP Reading Part 2 for 1st and 2nd Years

Thursday, April 30th: Evening Comprehensive Student Reviews (CSRs)

Thank you!

Your child receives the best education when you and I work as a team. It is a parent's enthusiasm, support, and involvement that inspires children to do their best, and a teacher's ability to teach what they need to learn. Together, we can achieve wonderful things that will allow your child to excel. Thank you for your commitment to your child's education and I feel privileged to be a part of your child's educational journey.

