

2023-2024 Cottage School Program

Weekly News--Week of December 11

Memory is the residue of thought.

~ Daniel T. Willingham

It is believed by cognitive scientists that humans have tens of thousands of thoughts per day. We are constantly filtering ideas and questions through our brains, spending more time on some, immediately dumping others, and recalling (or at least trying to) many throughout the day. Just thinking about how taxed our brains are in a 24-hour period is exhausting! After a long day, what thoughts tend to fill your mind? What is the typical balance between positive and negative thoughts? In the context of schooling, how much time do you think your student spends thinking about concepts learned in the classroom? Maybe that question is best answered when we're not so close to a break!

If Willingham is correct, the more time we spend pondering an idea, the more resilient our memory of that idea becomes. If we find ourselves wrestling with negative thoughts more often than we should, those negative thoughts will likely dominate our thinking. Fortunately, the opposite is true too. More time spent thinking about what's true, beautiful, and good will ultimately lead to more positive thoughts. Easy, right? In the busyness and hustle and bustle of the holiday season, when stress and fatigue tend to increase, hopefully we can all find time to focus on what rejuvenates and restores: time with family and friends, rest, and feeling grateful.

Happy Holidays! Enjoy Winter Break...We'll see you in 2024!

In Partnership,

Justin Peterson

Cottage School Program and College Pathways Principal

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Announcements

NEW and STILL IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

1. **DECEMBER LUNCH MENU** can be found [here](#).

2. **CLASS HOLIDAY PARTIES**--Be on the lookout for communication from grade level teachers regarding class holiday parties. Students in grades 1-6 are allowed to dress up for holiday parties (uniform clothes or nicer; denim is not considered dressing up); students in kindergarten have their own special plan for their last day before break. Regardless of grade level, please send your students to school with shoes for PE if they were dress shoes with their holiday clothes.

3. **SILVER GRAPHICS CATALOG IS STILL AVAILABLE!** It's time for our annual CSP art fundraiser through SilverGraphics! Proceeds benefit the CSP art program and allow materials to be purchased each school year so Mrs. Dalrymple and Mrs. Benjamin can prepare a variety of projects that enable students to grow as artists. **While the deadline to order in order to receive gifts in time for the holidays has passed, orders are still being accepted.** The Silver Graphics online store can be accessed [HERE](#); please use **ArtCottage23** for the school access code.

4. **WINTER BREAK**--There will be no school for students December 18, 2023 - January 4, 2024. CSP classes will resume the week of January 8, 2024. (Teachers have in-service days January 2-4, 2024.)

MONDAY Classes resume January 8th
TUESDAY Classes resume January 9th
WEDNESDAY Classes resume January 10th
THURSDAY Classes resume January 11th

5. TCA SUBSTITUTES NEEDED!

Types of jobs available: Teacher, Tutor, Office/Kiosk/Health Room, Test Proctoring

Requirements--

- TEACHER: Bachelor's degree in any subject **or** HS Diploma + CDE Substitute Teacher Authorization
- PARAPROFESSIONAL: High School Diploma or GED
- Office/Kiosk/Health Room/: High School Diploma/GED and additional training in the specific area
- Proctoring: Bachelor's degree in any subject and additional training in the specific area

To apply, please visit TCA's employment site at [here](#) and submit an application for Substitute.

6. WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

As TCA continues to support the Wreaths Across America Program, there are several ways you can participate. TCA Families can volunteer for the wreath laying ceremony on Saturday, December 16th @ 9:00am. Please click wreathscrossamerica.org/co0024 for more information.

7. **Looking for ways to bless our staff? Food is always welcome!** We have a "Sunshine Cabinet" in the Staff Lounge that we like to keep stocked with snacks and goodies for staff members to enjoy throughout the week. If ever you want to contribute a treat to the cabinet (whether store bought or homemade, savory or sweet), items can be dropped off in the CSP/CP office.

SNOW DAY AND 2-HOUR DELAY POLICY

Winter weather will undoubtedly impact the school week at some point in the coming months, so I wanted to send out CSP's snow day and 2-hour delay policy. As a reminder, TCA follows D20's delay and closure status.

SNOW DAYS

CSP will follow Academy School District 20 closure status. When ASD20 administration cancels school due to inclement weather, several radio/TV stations will be contacted to broadcast the closure or delay. TCA uses the Blackboard Connect™ service to notify the TCA community in the event of a delay or closure. COTTAGE SCHOOL PROGRAM DOES NOT MAKE UP SNOW DAYS.

2-HOUR DELAYS

Periodically throughout the winter, school will be delayed two hours due to inclement weather. Students may wear blue denim on these days. Hot lunch will still be available on delay days, or students may bring a sack lunch. All students should bring a snack and water bottle. Carpool as usual.

2-Hour Delay Schedule:

Grades 1-6: 10:15 - 3:30 pm

Kindergarten: AM class—10:15 - 12:30 pm

Typing Pal Log-In Instructions (Grades 3-6)

Typing Pal is a learn-to-type program that we offer at no charge to all of our upper elementary students. There is no requirement to participate; it's simply something families may use as part of their home school curricula if students desire to learn/master basic typing skills. Log-in instructions are below.

1. Go to <https://clascott.typingpal.com>
2. Each student's **user name** is the first letter of his/her first name (as given in Infinite Campus; not a nickname) followed by the student's last name (i.e. shille would be the username for Stefani Hille).
3. The **password** is identical for each student—*titans*—UNLESS a student was with us previously and changed his/her account to a unique password. Once students are logged in, they may change their password to something unique to them.
4. Questions or trouble logging in? Contact Stef Hille at shille@asd20.org.



TCA Cottage School Program

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College Pathways

College is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

