

THE CELTIC RAMBLER

Back to School Edition

September 2017

Back At It Again By: Naomi Hemphill and Lily Kryczkowski

Celtic Rambler Staff:

- Alice Radjou*
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- Diana Portillo*
- Chris Pyle*
- Sydney Reichardt*
- Amelia Safford*
- Deionte' Waller*
- Maret Whalen*

Inside this issue:

- Welcome Back 1
- Upper School Survival Tips 1
- New Students, Senior Anticipation 2
- New Teachers, Football, Cross 3
- Summer Fun, Miss Virginia Out- 4
- Cafeteria, Faculty Babies, Events 5
- Fun Page 6

Here we are again. We all know that transitioning from tanning on the beach or binge watching Netflix, to staying up until 2am and waking up four hours later, is awful. Whether it's your last time down these halls, or you are just beginning your high school journey, welcome to the 2017-2018 RCS School Year!

This new year comes with many new and exciting changes to the high school. Father Matt is teaching theology? That is awesome! No slacking off, juniors. Mrs. Apel is back, so Mr. Bege-man is glad he is not teaching Calculus. Everyone get your math dollars out!

We have 26 new students joining our ranks and are so excited to have them here! New student, Kawuan Ray (9th grade), says he cannot wait for basketball season with our new coach, Shawn Good, who led Christians-burg High School to their first state championship in 2012.

Upper School Survival Tips By: Grace Wolowski

Starting high school or going to a new school can be a difficult time, so to help new students, I asked various seniors how the high school experience could be made easier.

Megan McEvoy suggested that, "[Students] shouldn't kneel at their locker to get their books. Instead, they should put

Sophomore Ian Yeaton is excited to receive a Chrome-book this year, along with all other 9th and 10th graders who get to be a part of this big change!

The Homecoming game is Friday, October 13, and the dance is the next night. Like many 8th graders, Athena Wimbish cannot wait for her first year participating in all the festivities.

The choir and the band will join forces in December to perform a Lessons and Carols Christmas concert at St. Andrew's.

Choir director Mr. Hemphill says, "I'm thrilled with the increased interest in choir since we started four years ago with just 13 students to 34 members today. Their talent is phenomenal."

Seniors are preparing to begin the college application process, which always invokes

mixed emotions as they face a new challenge, and the next chapter of their lives.

"I'm looking forward to our last go around to make a difference," says Audrey Wagner, as she anticipates the year ahead.

On the other hand, Lauren Andersen is anxiously anticipating graduation and heading off to college.

Mr. Begeman reflects on the class of 2018, "I'm looking forward to the graduation of the class that made me a teacher."

Finally, we would like to welcome all the new students and faculty to Roanoke Catholic; we look forward to a productive and fun year!

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"

2 Corinthians 5:17

their books in the top of their lockers for easier access." Lily Kryczkowski added, "Walk on the right side of the stairwell to avoid congestion."

Alice Radjou offered a more academic tip, "Your classes will help you in the long run even if you don't think so now." AJ

Bennett added, "Teachers admire honesty."

High school can be challenging; however, you should make the best of it and follow these tips for a successful year!

New Students in Upper School By: Chelsea Gilday, Meaghan Glenney, and Maret Whalen

Welcome back swamp members!! Everyone is bouncing back into their well-known roles as students with great expectations for a new year! As returning students venture through the hallways, they are also accompanied by new and unfamiliar faces.

Unaware of the lifestyle in the swamp, these 26 new upper school students are learning the ropes and ways at RCS. Here are a few of the new students' inputs on their feelings about the atmosphere during their first few weeks here at RCS.

Eloise Chandler, coming from Cave Spring High School, is one of the two new juniors. She described her first day as confusing because "I did not know where anything was!" Since her first day, she has made a lot of new friends and is now oriented to her classes. Eloise said that the uniform makes her mornings easier, but she misses being able to wear any sweatshirt and using her phone at lunch.

Adrian Whorley is a tenth grade transfer from Jefferson Forest High

School. His reason for transferring was to gain a stronger education and to play sports.

After the 50-6 win against King and Queens High School, Adrian commented, "I thought the game went well; we were super prepared."

Adrian expressed that he is going to miss not being exempt from exam, but the food is way better, "It was real tasty!"

Derek Gilday was homeschooled his entire childhood and always wanted to go to school. That day finally came on August 22, when he not only stepped into his first day of high school as a freshman, but also his first day of learning inside a school! He finds mornings easy since his outfit (a uniform) is always ready and waiting for him, but he misses getting an assured eight or nine hours of sleep every night.

Derek exclaimed, "On my first day, I was nervous and excited at the same time about starting!"

He not only has friends that have taken him under their wings, but they have also helped him realize

that high school will be the adventure of a lifetime!

Fianna Miller not only entered into a new school this year as an 8th grader, but she also became a Virginia resident! She moved all the way from California and has enjoyed the drastic change.

Even though she misses home, Fianna says, "...it's nice to have a change."



Eloise Chandler



Derek Gilday

Senior Anticipation By: Lily Kryczkowski and Megan McEvoy

After (at least) thirteen years of schooling, the Class of 2018 has finally reached their senior year! When asked what they are most excited about, many seniors, such as Grace Wolowski, Lauren Andersen, and Alice Radjou, said that they are most excited about graduation.

Isaac Chitwood is most excited to visit the Grand Canyon over spring break with the National

over spring break with the National Parks Experience class, which is sponsored by Mr. Sweeney.

Santiago Gonzalez and Martha Drapac are looking forward to senior privileges, such as the senior breakfasts, the senior parking lot, and college sweatshirts.

The seniors are also anticipating the upcoming athletic events; Will Kapral is excited for another year of

golf, and Fumika Masuda is ready to get back onto the soccer field.

And Jared Grinde said that he is really excited about receiving his college acceptance letters.

Most importantly, though, the Class of 2018 is excited for another year at Roanoke Catholic School; one that the seniors will never forget.

Spotlight on new Upper School Teachers By: Amelia Safford and Sydney Reichardt



Mr. Sherry

Roanoke Catholic is very excited to welcome two new teachers to the Upper School, Mr. Mabry and Mr. Sherry!

Mr. Sherry previously taught Health and PE at Stonewall Jackson Middle School. Before starting his teaching journey, Mr. Sherry worked in a maximum security juvenile detention center. This is where he discovered his love for teaching children and giving them a break

from the daily stressors of life with fun and knowledge. His favorite thing about Roanoke Catholic is the positivity and optimistic atmosphere that surrounds the Roanoke Catholic community. Mr. Sherry expressed his urgent aspiration to learn the bell schedule “so I don’t keep sending kids late.”

Mr. Mabry previously worked as a Graduate Teaching Assistant at Auburn University. He played in his high school and college bands, and he taught in various high schools.

Mr. Mabry’s favorite thing about Roanoke Catholic so far is the administration. “They’re just so supportive of

us teachers, they have our back at all times. Whenever you need something, they go out of their way to help you... They’re great.”

He is most looking forward to getting to know each of his students this year.

We are so blessed to have amazing new additions to our Upper School community.



Mr. Mabry

Friday Night Lights By: Spencer Krohmer and Deionte’ Waller

Roanoke Catholic football, coming off a 10-1 season, hopes to repeat the success of last year. This attitude led to great commitment and hard work starting last February, and it has paid off so far! The Celtics are 4-0.

An road-opener against King and Queen Central High School. Mykah English has a 20 yard catch, and finished the game 49-6 with 150 total yards.

Next was Fishburne Military Academy where the Celtics rolled over

Caissons 55-6. Bryant Guilfoyle has a 50 yard touchdown pass to Deionte Waller, English had three touchdowns.

The third game of the season was against Eastern Montgomery, and was the first game many fans can travel to. Chris Pyle, in the first play of the game had a 80 yard kick off return starting to RCS to a 41-6 win. Adrian Whoreley intercepted a pass, and Kawuan Ray had two touchdowns.

Richmond Christian was shut out

by the Celtics defense. Whoreley had a 47 punt return for a touchdown, and as second string quarter back had two touchdown passes. Luke Price, an eighth grade in his first year on varsity, scored a touchdown, helping with the 47-0 final score.

With the Celtics strong start to the season, is there another state championship in sight? We sure hope so!

Cross Country By: Chris Pyle and Isaac Chitwood

Cross country season is going “...great, despite the heat of the summer,” says the ecstatic Lily Kryczkowski.

The return of many of the team’s top runners brought encouragement to the new team members, and the coaches expect great things from the experienced runners, while hoping for improvement in the rookies. The

team headed to Giles High School for their first meet on August 30 and they performed well with the boys taking 11th and the girls taking 6th.

At Knight’s Crossing on September 9, the senior girls placed seventh and Sam Connelly took fourth. On September 16, at Clash with the Titans, both varsity boys and girls placed eighth.

They hope to keep the momentum going and finish the season with a conference championship.



Mrs. Connelly’s pre-practice speech

Summer Fun By: Alice Radjou and Amelia Safford

The summer of 2017 was filled with laughter and joy. As Roanoke Catholic School bounces into the new school year, The Celtic Rambler staff wants to acknowledge some students who experienced extraordinary summers and participated in grand adventures!

For example, Naomi and Emily Hemphill went to see *Hamilton* on Broadway in New York City, while Jesse Derringer hiked the Saint George Trek (78



Roanoke Valley Children's Choir in London

miles) in Albuquerque, New Mexico with the National Catholic Committee of Scouting!

Chris Sargent went to the Dominican Republic to play baseball with the coach of the University of Virginia. Another UVA connection was Megan McEvoy who graduated from the Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership.

She said, "it taught me important lessons about ethics and politics."

Back in Roanoke, the Key Club volunteered at the Rescue Mission! Chef Radjou won the 1st

place trophy again at this year's Baconfest.

We also had some students travel internationally. Jorge Aguero spent his entire summer in Cuba, The Roanoke Valley Children's Choir (Amelia Safford, David Gepitulan, and Alice Radjou) traveled to London, England to perform in the International Children's Choir Festival in Canterbury Cathedral. Diana Portillo and her whole family spent their summer in San Miguel, El Salvador.

Now that we are back, we hope you keep up the same excitement here!



Hemphills at *Hamilton*



Chris Sargent



Jesse Derringer



Diana and cousins

Miss Virginia Outstanding Teen - Isabella Jessee By: AJ Bennett

Being Miss Virginia's Outstanding Teen is a privilege, and Isabella Jessee has won the honor of wearing that crown. Competing against 21 other girls in private interview, lifestyle and fitness, talent, and evening gown and onstage question, Isabella came out on top.

For her talent, she preformed "The Devil Went Down to Georgia" on her grandfather's 70-year old violin. Her performance and overall personality got the attention of three great schools: The University of Alabama, The University of San Diego, and Hollins University.

In being crowned Miss Virginia's Outstanding Teen, she has taken on the job of promoting the Miss Amer-

ica Organization and volunteerism. Isabella has become an advocate for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

Isabella stated, "I am really looking forward to my year and the opportunities that come with this role. I hope to leave a positive impact wherever I go."

She enjoys visiting the Veterans Hospital to play her violin, which her grandfather played while stationed in Saudi Arabia in the 1950s. Isabella travels all over Virginia, wearing her crown and sash to be as a role model for youth in Virginia.



Jessee being crowned for Miss Virginia's Outstanding Teen 2017

Upcoming Events By: Megan McEvoy and Diana Portillo

At Roanoke Catholic School

- Sept. 27 Picture Day
- Oct. 3 Varsity Volleyball against North Cross at The Swamp
- Oct. 7 Homecoming Gala
- Oct. 9 - 14 Homecoming Week
- Oct. 13 Homecoming Game against Hargrave at Vineyard Park
- Oct. 20 End of the First Quarter
- Oct. 21 Football Game against North Cross at Salem Stadium
- Oct. 27 Ring Day
- Nov. 8 Makeup Picture Day

Around the Town - Roanoke

- Sept. 24-Oct. 30 Jeter Farm Fall Festival & Country Store located at the farm
- Sept. 30 Harvest Festival on Market Street in Downtown Roanoke (10AM-4PM)
- Saturdays City Market Saturdays - Downtown Roanoke and Grandin Village
- Oct. 13 - 15 Roanoke GO OUTSIDE Festival at Rivers Edge
- Oct. 14 Virginia Tech Ice Hockey Game against University of Virginia at the Berglund Center

Beef Tips and More! By: Spencer Krohmer, Sydney Reichardt, and Catherine Carroll

Lunch. The only thing that even comes close to rivaling everyone’s favorite period is having a break, but that is not what we are talking about. Students are talking about the cafeteria’s new selections.

This year, Chef Radjou expanded the menu to include chicken bis-

cuits, beef tips, and many more delicious options. He wanted to offer a wider variety of cultural cuisine. Yum!

When asked if he considers students and staff with food allergies, Chef Radjou replied, “We always do...If they let me know, I can

make it for them.”

People with allergies - do not be afraid to talk to Chef Radjou, so that you do not miss out on some amazing lunches.

Adding to the excitement of a new year is the return of Chicken Tikka Masala!

Now, who is ready for lunch?

Faculty Babies

By: Maret Whalen and Meaghan Glenney



Mr. Reynolds and family

This past school year Roanoke Catholic School added two new babies to the

Celtic nation! Mr. Reynolds and his wife were blessed with their first child, a beautiful baby boy named Anderson, on April 11, 2017.

In response to whether Anderson will one day be a Celtic like his dad, Mr. Reynolds, Class of 1998, stated, “Of course!”

A couple of months later, Mrs. Warner and her husband, welcomed their second daughter into the world, Maya. Big sister Tessa loves hanging out with a new friend.

Do you think Anderson and Maya are destined to be friends?



Maya and Tessa

Word Scramble By: Isabella Jesse and Catherine Carroll

slecti oasctm _____

nirg yad _____

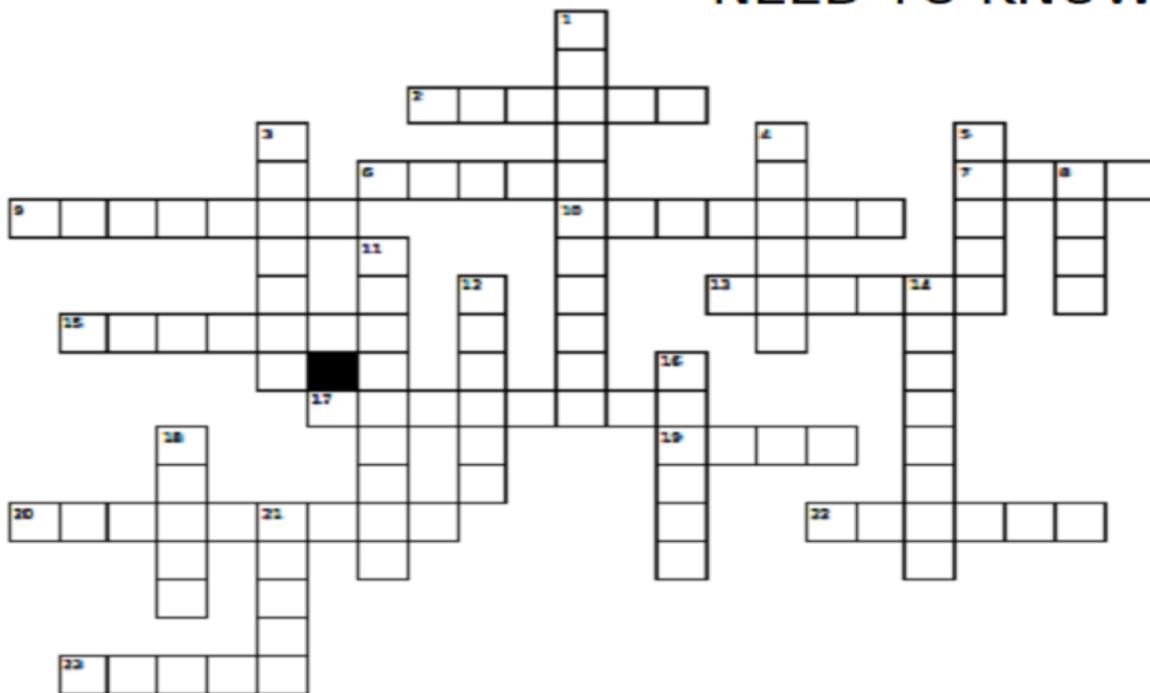
renge dna lgod _____

mmiegnhoc anced _____

driyaf gihtn slight _____

Word Scramble: (celtics mascot); (ring day); (green and gold); (homecoming dance); (Friday night lights)

NEED TO KNOW FACULTY



Down:

1. THEOLOGY TEACHER WHO SHARES A ROOM WITH MRS. APEL
3. FOOTBALL COACH AND SCIENCE TEACHER
4. NEW GYM TEACHER
5. ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL WHO SINGS ON THE ANNOUNCEMENTS
8. SOCCER COACH AND MATH TEACHER
11. PRINCIPAL OF RCS

12. PEOPLE CALL THIS CHEMISTRY TEACHER'S CHILDREN SHRUBS
14. CHOIR DIRECTOR
16. ENGLISH TEACHER WHO IS ADDICTED TO SHAKESPEARE
18. RCS CHAPLAIN
21. ROSARY AND PRO-LIFE CLUB ADVISOR

Across:

2. FRENCH TEACHER
6. YEARBOOK ADVISOR
7. TEACHES BIO AD HAS A LIZARD IN HER FREEZING CLASSROOM
9. ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL WHO PLAYS THE GUITAR
10. THE MATH TEACHER WHO TEACHES INTO COMPUTER PROGRAMMING
13. TEACHES AP AND WORLD HISTORY
15. DRAMA DIRECTOR
17. THEOLOGY TEACHE WHOSE WIFE JUST HAD A BABY
19. THE MOST SOUTHERN HISTORY TEACHER
20. SPANISH TEACHER
22. ENGLISH TEACHER WHO LOVES STAR WARS
23. GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

