



The Mister Carlin

News from the Bottom of the Hill

I was very pleased to hear from Cady Alden that she was willing to continue to work as the editor for *The Mister Carlin*. She is not alone this time, as Devein Pascual has agreed to work with her to produce this publication. There have been a number of exciting things happening in Carroll Nine. In the past two weeks, we have finished *The Catcher in the Rye*, gone ice skating for physics class, hosted two visits from groups of students from the eighth grade, put in a ceiling in the cabin, and cooked a celebratory holiday meal

Our students also continue to impress. You will read in these pages about the accomplishments of C9ers such as Conors hockey tryouts, study hall, and student writing and artwork. We are also noticing that more and more of our students are taking charge of their education and their environment. In fact, just this week, one Carroll Nine student called and ran a meeting with teachers to discuss ways to raise his grades, another showed us a Power Point presentation about changes to the dress code, and another met with teachers to talk about establishing a fund raiser for a charity important to him.

In English class, students are doing the beginning work for two major assignments on *The Catcher in the Rye*. One will be to write an analytic essay of 5 to 7 pages and the other will be to film a movie trailer for a hypothetical *Catcher* film. Students won't have much to do on these projects over winter break, but you will see students poring over the pages of our next novel, Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea*, while on vacation.

Finally, this week all the C9 teachers, along with Terry Gregory, Larry Brown, and Steve Wilkins, met with a few parents at our monthly coffee Q&A session. Thanks to all of you who attended, and I look forward to seeing you on January 11 at 7:30 in the Cole Room for our next one.

If I don't see you in person before break, have a wonderful holiday. Your kids are doing wonderful work and are a pleasure to teach .



- Kurt Moellering

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The Ice Skating Trip

The first science-math field trip was a success. The students all seemed to enjoy themselves, even those who were out of their comfort zone on the ice. It was nice to see some of the non-academic talents of

the students and how well they supported and respected each other. They did a nice job of looking into the physics concepts we had talked about in class and how they applied to the ice. I look forward to

organizing other events of field trips in the future for the students to enjoy and will keep you updated. If you have any suggestions regarding this, please feel free to share.

— Heather Nickle



Science Current Events

Every month the C9 students will investigate, write up, and submit electronically (to hnickle@carrollsschool.org) a physics current event. This project is designed to help them practice and improve their writing, learn how to assess a non-academic reading, see how science is

all around them and how the concepts they are learning about in class are used/applied in life, and to organize their time effectively. All students should have a hard copy of the format and due dates as well as an electronic copy (it can be found on the calendar on engrade).



The majority of this assignment will be done outside of class, but I am available to assist them as needed. Some class periods and focus block periods will also be set aside to assist with this ongoing project, but

ultimately we want the students to learn how to organize their time to get a project completed outside of class time. The due dates for the physics current events are:

- 1st -Wednesday, December 14,
- 2nd - Tuesday, January 17,
- 3rd - Wednesday, February 15,
- 4th - Thursday, March 15,
- 5th - Wednesday, April 11,
- 6th - Wednesday, May 16,

- Heather Nickle

History Class Following Break

Next stop on the Freedom and Democracy train is Thomas Paine, the author of "Common Sense." Quoting John Adams, "Without the pen of the author of 'Common Sense,' the sword of Washington would have

been raised in vain. We will read and discuss the significance of several of his writings and their impact on the American Revolution, and the political philosophy of our founding fathers. After Paine we will read and study

Thomas Jefferson, his political career, the Declaration of Independence and his view of democracy and the republic.

- Bob Reid

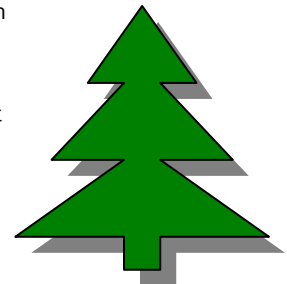
C9 Math

Greetings from C9 Math! We have been busy over the past couple of weeks, so I will outline some of the things we've been up to and give a preview as to what's coming up. In Algebra, we have been continuing with Lumosity and focusing on volume and surface area of different solids. Following winter break, we will shift gears and begin to use motion detectors to graph functions comparing rate, time,

and distance. In geometry, we have been focusing on triangles – specifically: exterior angles, congruence, and the inequalities within triangles. We will soon begin to discuss mathematical proof, which is always a hit! In both classes, we have been continuing with Scratch, a computer programming language, which has been great fun. Thank you to those parents who attended this week's coffee and Q&A – we

hope you enjoyed seeing some of the students' programming! Stay tuned for more updates from mathland!

- Mrs Junkin



And the Research says...

Carol S. Dweck, Ph.D., is one of the world's leading researchers in the field of motivation. Her research has focused on why people succeed and how to foster success. [<http://mindsetonline.com/>] <http://mindsetonline.com/>

This fall, the 9th grade students have become familiar with some of her work. They have developed an appreciation of maintaining a growth mindset. People with growth mindsets believe that they can learn, change, and develop needed skills. They are better equipped to handle inevitable setbacks, and know that hard work can help them accomplish their goals.

Parents can support this model. Show children that you value learning and improvement, not

just quick, perfect performance. Celebrate effort and process. Do not shield children from challenges, mistakes, and struggles. Teach children to love challenges and embrace mistakes. Say things like "This is hard, but fun!" or "That's an interesting mistake. What should you do next?" Teach them to love effort: "That was a fantastic struggle. You really stuck to it and made great progress." Resist praising children's intelligence. Carol Dweck has said, "My research has shown that, far from boosting children's self-esteem, it makes them more fragile and can undermine their motivation and learning. Praising children's intelligence puts them in a fixed mindset, makes them afraid of making mistakes, and makes them lose their confidence when something is

hard for them. Instead, parents should praise the process their children's effort, strategy, perseverance, or improvement. Then the children will be willing to take on challenges and will know how to stick with things even the hard ones."

Together, students, parents, and teachers, can join efforts to shift from the common cultural focus on results to a growth mindset focus on persistent work, facing challenges, and making progress toward achieving goals.

- Terry Gregory

Study Hall from the Students

Carroll Nine has made a study hall available afterschool at 3:15 to 4:45. There are about eight students who currently participate in it. While speaking to those students, I was able to get their opinions on the new program. I received a lot of positive feedback about the program. When asked if the program was helpful students like Skippy said, "Yes, instead of procrastinating, I am able to finish mostly or sometimes all my homework." Other students such as Josh said that his grades went through, "as much as improvement there can be in a two weeks."

- Devein Pascual

Updates On Cabin Building

We're making progress. Attic joists and flooring is in and recently we got the ridge pole up. Next step is to cut and install the rafters, put up the sheathing and then shingle the roof. We will have a big push on Friday, 12/16. We have 12 signed up thus far. Your kids have all done a good job, they have learned a little along the way, and they can all take pride in having built this themselves.

- Bob Reid

HELP WANTED!!

We are looking for one or two parents to serve as informal C9 Parents Association members. The main responsibility would be to act as a liaison between faculty and other parents. This person would meet with a faculty member monthly and communicate messages/requests for help to other parents as parents needed over the rest of the year.





Student News

Conor Caffrey was asked to try out for the Scituate High School Boys' Varsity Hockey Team, an honor in itself. Conor is very humble, an admirable virtue. After some emails from his dad, we found out that not only did Conor make the team, he

started with two seniors on the first line in a scrimmage against Div. 1 Norwood. WOW! When questioned about his success, Conor flashed his disarming smile and said, "Yeah, I made the team." Like it's no big deal. Accolades to you, Conor, for

your incredible effort, your success and prowess on the ice, and your winning attitude.

- Bob Reid

New Year, New Schools

The students in C9 have come to a critical point in the school year: figuring out where we will be attending school in 2012. We have all been looking into high schools whether they are public or private. Some of the more popular choices among students are: Beaver Country Day School, Brewster Academy, Cambridge School of Weston, Chapel Hill-Chauncey Hall, The Commonwealth School, Proctor Academy, and Thayer Academy.

Beaver is a day school in Brookline that runs on a module system. This means that you are only taking four out of five classes per trimester, so that students can focus more on the classes that they are taking. Beaver also strives to keep its students as technically advanced as possible, requiring that each student has an up to date laptop at all times, and by assigning most project electronically. Beaver also has a strong artistic and athletic program, requiring students to participate in arts and/or athletics all school year.

Brewster Academy is a boarding school in New Hampshire with rigorous academics. It is on a lake close to a small town where students are allowed to go during off time. While it is a comfortable setting, Brewster also requires a strict 'coat and tie' dress code. Brewster features a strong athletic program and each student is required to participate in sports.

Cambridge School of Weston is an art-based day and boarding school in Weston, MA. Like Beaver, CSW runs on a module system, giving students more focus time on certain subjects. While the academics are strong, and the sports teams are good, CSW is best known for arts. Students are required to take multiple art electives ranging from dance to visual arts.

Chapel Hill-Chauncey Hall is a college preparatory day and boarding school in Waltham that, like Beaver and CSW, runs on a rotating module system. The academics at Chapel Hill are rigorous and require serious commitment. Chapel Hill is also strong in their many arts programs.

The Commonwealth School is an extremely rigorous college preparatory school located in a brownstone in Back-Bay, Boston. They compare their curriculum to that of Winsor School, Boston Latin and B.U. Academy; it is meant to prepare smart students for Ivy League and intensive 4 year colleges. They offer a great amount of support to accommodate their hard work. The School offers strong arts and requires students to participate in sports, although their athletic program is small.

Proctor Academy is another boarding school in New Hampshire. Unlike Brewster they have a loose dress code. One of our students, Calley Sullivan, even went to Proctor and expressed great fondness of their rigorous curriculum and amazing athletic program. Calley says that the social life is fun and relaxed and that it is a great school in general.

Thayer Academy is a rigorous independent school league day school in Braintree. Thayer offers a classical education, while using contemporary elements. Thayer offers outstanding athletic and artistic programs, using amazing facilities. Thayer also accommodates the needs of students with organizational disadvantages, using their Hale Learning Center.

The less popular school choices include Meridian Academy, Milton Academy, Mount Saint Joseph Academy, Lexington Christian Academy, Lawrence Academy, St. Mark School and public schools. More information about the schools above and other schools is available online or through any C9 teachers.

- Alex D'Amico

Student Writing

Cancer Hits a Star

Leader my leader what is this,
 You say your journey may not continue no more,
 Your career has so much promise and there is much more to come
 But you say your time is done,
 From shore to shore you are the one who all adore
 And at very meet no one beats your score,
 You are the first of your kind to win the prize
 But now you say you bleed from your nose and eyes,
 This must be just another obstacle in your path to success
 But this one is by far more fatal from the rest,
 You tell me it is my time to lead the group to treasures and gold
 But I shall ask where you may go,
 A place where everybody goes but nobody knows
 A place that is only meant for the old
 Then as you fall to ground
 I scream but it seems as if I do not make a sound,
 Wondering how your career could have evolved
 But a question now nobody may solve,
 Your name will be remembered for many years to come
 And some may say you were number one,
 Your success will be forever glorified
 But your death will leave everyone terrified.



- Andre Iniguez

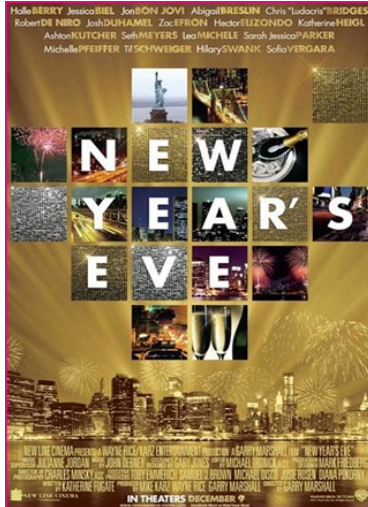
Dedicated to Ernie Davis a college football star and first African American to win the Heisman trophy award. He never got to play a game in the NFL because he died of leukemia on May 18.

Carroll School Basketball

The basketball team at Carroll formed with 8-9 graders has a basketball record of 1 win and 1 loss. There are approximately fifteen players on the team and 2 9th graders, Andre Iniguez and Dana Harris. Andre and Dana often score 16-22 points altogether every game. Our coach is Mr. Lynch and so far we have learned 2 inbound plays that we call Rose and Big D. I am afraid I cannot explain them because it takes too long. The team also has every kind of player possible from newer players who just know the basics all the way to advanced players who know a lot It's a good combination because the advanced players can help the newer players get better which will improve our teams overall status. That's all for now and thanks for reading *The Mister Carlin*.

- Dana Harris

Skippy's Movie Picks

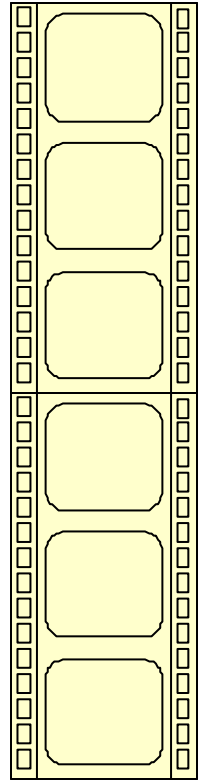


New Year's Eve

I am still not 100% sure if this even IS a movie. This film was drowned with a star-studded cast and was dead on arrival. This film "celebrates love, hope, forgiveness, second chances and fresh starts" but in actuality, it's sappy and boring. New Year's Eve called on the *biggest names* in Hollywood for no discernible purpose I would compare this film to calling the Super Friends to rescue a cat stuck in a tree. I'm not sure if DeNiro had a

gun to his head when he agreed to do this movie, but I wish I did when I was watching this. I just have one question, WHY DID I PAY \$8 FOR THE TICKET? I give this movie a big 3 thumbs down that's right, I grew a third thumb just for this movie. 3/10

- Nick (Skippy) Swanton



Letter from the Editor

Hello, I am Acadia Alden. This is my first year being a member of any of the Carroll school's programs. When offered the position as editor, I was excited and a little scared. I have never been part of a newsletter or any other form of publication. I was pleased at the outcome of the first addition so I continued my job as editor. This job is a fun new experience as well as a challenge for me personally so I have agreed to help edit the newsletter throughout the year, with the help of my new found assistant Devein Pasqual.

It is our hope to send out a new edition of *The Mister Carlin* every two or so weeks. The purpose of the newsletter is to keep parents and faculty members from the

lower schools informed about the progress of the C9 program and its students. I have decided to make *The Mister Carlin* centered on the students and their work. I constantly persuade students to submit their work to the newsletter so people can see what they are capable of doing. Along with the students work I also have teachers submit short article briefly explaining the progress of his or her class and what is to come later on.

I have received a lot of feedback from parents and faculty members about this newsletter. I appreciate and take under consideration all of it. If you have any feedback about this or suggestions for upcoming editions I have provided both of my E-mail

addresses for anyone who wishes to contact me. Thank you to all who read *The Mister Carlin* and Happy Holidays.

- Acadia Alden

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Assistant editor Devein Pasqual (left)
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