

Updates from the Principal

The 2017-2018 school year is off to a wonderful beginning. We continue to strengthen both our academic and extra-curricular programs. Highlights this year include: additional electives such as Engineering, Journalism, and "From Bach to Rock" (Music History); participation in OHSAA tournament competition for the first time in boys' soccer and girls' volleyball; and the integration of a service requirement for graduation for all students at every grade level.

In addition, our academic reputation continues to grow stronger. Two of our alumni are attending Brown University, an Ivy League school in Rhode Island, and we have heard other success stories from our Class of 2017 alumni. One of our current seniors, Yobani Garcia, has been named a National Hispanic Scholar by the College Board National Hispanic Recognition Program based on his outstanding results on the PSAT/NMSQT last year. Sophomores and juniors will take the PSAT later this month. 9th-11th grades took pre-ACT testing last month to prepare for college admissions tests.

We can't wait to see what else this year will bring!

Updates from the front office

We are very happy to welcome to Cristo Rey a new member of our team. Cindy Kelley has joined us as an administrative assistant in the front office. She will be working every school day from 12-5 PM. Cindy has previously worked as a teacher in several schools including Watterson High School and St. Charles High School. Welcome aboard, Cindy!

Updates from Development

On September 23, Cristo Rey Columbus held its annual fundraiser, The Garden Party, which raised over \$260,000. Student volunteers served as hosts for the evening, and a few spoke in front of the crowd. Thanks to all students who helped make the night a success!

Each year, Cristo Rey Columbus creates a Christmas card that features student artwork. Students are working on their art and they'll submit their work for the competition by November 1.

Updates from Admissions

Hello from the Admissions Office! Already we are beginning the application process for current 8th grade students, the Class of 2022! If you have a student who will be applying for admission for next school year, please know that the Early Admission Deadline is November 21, 2017. We are encouraging all families to apply prior to this deadline to avoid being put on the waitlist. Applications are available online, or can be picked up in the front office.

We will be hosting our Annual Open House on Sunday, October 29 from 1:00-3:00. If you know any middle school families who might be interested in Cristo Rey, please invite them. Also, we will be looking for a few parent volunteers to help out with the event. If you are interested, please contact our admissions office.

Updates from the Counseling Department

Parents and students are invited to a FAFSA and Financial Aid night. Join us for a night where we will have volunteers and representatives from local colleges and their financial aid offices. We want to answer your FAFSA questions and help you complete the FAFSA before the deadline. Use this opportunity to learn about the process and determine the best approach in applying for financial aid. The event will be 10/26 at the Columbus Metropolitan Library's Homework Help Center from 6-8 PM.

Join the other nearly 85 students in Quarter 1 who have taken advantage of our free mental health/wellness services on campus! Parental Consent Forms and the accompanying Informed Consent required for students to meet with Ms. O'Donnell, our clinical counselor (LPCC), can be picked up in the Main Office.

Updates from Work Study

Students have gotten off to a great start at work! This year, the PWSP office is partnering with over 115 different organizations around central Ohio, providing the students with a great variety of experiences. We have been working with students on building positive relationships, verbal and non-verbal communication, receiving feedback, growth mindset (grit), recovering from mistakes, embracing challenges, and goal setting. We are looking forward to a great second quarter!

12th Grade

Updates from the Class of 2018: The first quarter of senior year has been a rollercoaster. I'm still trying to adapt to the culture of my teachers and to their teaching styles. The college process has become part of my daily routine; not a day goes by that I am not counting down for the start of what I have been preparing for throughout the last 13 years of my life. It honestly feels like freshman year was just yesterday. Cristo Rey has improved my strength, ability, and consistent determination in both my educational life and my personal life. This best thing that has happened to me this year was having three of my dearest friends get accepted to Bowling Green State University. Personally, I can't wait to major in Law and Criminal Justice and minor in Political Science in college. Every Wednesday, my college counselor and I discuss everything about college: financial aid, the application process, scholarships, and building skills to deal with stress. I am trying to focus on finding a balance in everything. I feel like I have been able to achieve my goals so far, and I look forward to the next chapter of Senior year.

Arnell Wade '18

11th Grade

Updates from the Class of 2019: The Junior students are off to a great start. Several of them are ascending as leaders through various opportunities, such as Student Council, the Sophomore Retreat, National Honors Society, JSA, and much more. They are beginning to feel the pressure that comes with the start of your 3rd year of high school. The college process is near for them and they are taking notice of its presence. They have already taken the practice ACT and will take the PSAT on October 25th. These scores will help guide the students in what area they more practice with in order to prepare for the real ACT and SAT in the Spring. Students shared that the highlight of Junior year so far has been draft day, getting to apply for National Honors Society, being treated like adults, and the challenging new classes. They are looking forward to the Junior retreat, winter sports, and other opportunities that will come up throughout the year. Students feel that areas that they will have to work on are time management, being truly college-ready, balancing part-time jobs with school work, and overall effort in classes. They have already impressed their teachers as a unified class and community, and their teachers are looking forward to all the other accomplishments that still await them.

10th Grade

Updates from the Class of 2020: Sophomore year is off to a superb start! Sophomores have higher expectations this year in terms of their independence, workload, behavior, and leadership within the school. Teachers are impressed with this group of students and have enjoyed getting to know them so far! Many students have opportunities to take higher-level honors or AP classes this year, which have proved to be challenging and rigorous. All students are taking Spanish for the first time at Cristo Rey and our Heritage Spanish speakers have enjoyed helping out our non-native speakers with their vocabulary and fluency. The Professional Work-Study Program is off to a strong start for the Sophomore class as they continue to develop as young professionals. A handful of the sophomores are returning for the second year to their jobs while many others have started at a new job. Sophomores have also gotten involved in Student Council, clubs, and sports teams: cross country, soccer, and volleyball. This year, sophomores are looking forward to learning, growing, and continuing to prepare themselves for college.

9th Grade

Updates from the Class of 2021: The 9th grade students had a productive first quarter. In their core classes, students reviewed and extended their previous knowledge from middle school. In Algebra, students spent the first quarter working on cooperative learning skills and learning the basics of Algebra 1. In English, students worked on self-reflection and exploration through poetry, narrative writing and analytical thinking. In World History, students explored ancient civilizations through primary and secondary sources. Students also learned about the characteristics of life, biochemistry, and ecology. In Visual Art, students were exposed to new mediums, sketching, and even a bit of art history. PE students began the year by testing their individual levels of fitness, and in Technology, students learned about coding and internet safety. In Theology, students explored God's Revelation as well as an overview of the Old and New Testaments. In Choir, students went through "Choir Bootcamp," and they are already preparing for our Christmas concert on December 8, 6:00pm at the State Auto Nativity Scene. Students also took an educational field trip to High Banks Metro Park and the Columbus Metropolitan Library. Please see the 9th grade newsletter for fun pictures from these events!