



*Believe
you can and
you are
halfway
there*

It is hard to believe our school year is more than halfway over. We have already passed the 100th day of school for the 2024—2025 school year. It seems like it was just last week that we started school as we have been busy providing new learning opportunities outside the enterprise classrooms for our students. In the classrooms, our students and staff have been very creative in the products we produce for you, our extended Networks Family. We are very grateful for the generosity and support you have provided our students through your purchases.



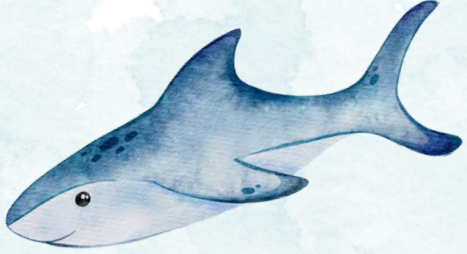

As the month of February comes to an end, we once again focused our attention on contributions of African Americans to the United States during Black History Month. We began this program in 2023.

In March, we will once again be focusing on Women's History Month – commemorating and encouraging the study, observance and celebration of the vital role of women in American history.



Upcoming Dates to Keep In Mind Include:

- Wednesday, March 5 - Spread the Word in Support of Individuals with Developmental Disabilities
- Sunday, March 9 - Start of Daylight Savings Time - (Set your clocks forward 1 hour)
- Wednesday & Thursday, March 12 /13 - Professional Dress
- Friday, March 14 - Parent Conferences / No School for Students
- Saturday, March 15 - Special Olympics State Basketball Tournament @ UD
- Friday, March 21 - Rock Your Sock Day in Support of Individuals with Downs Syndrome
- Friday, March 28 - Spring Semi-Formal
- Monday, March 31 - No School for Students / Grading Day
- Wednesday, April 2 - Autism Awareness Day
- Monday thru Thursday, April 14 - 17 - Interview Week at Networks
- Friday thru Sunday, April 18 - 27 - Spring Break / No School for Students

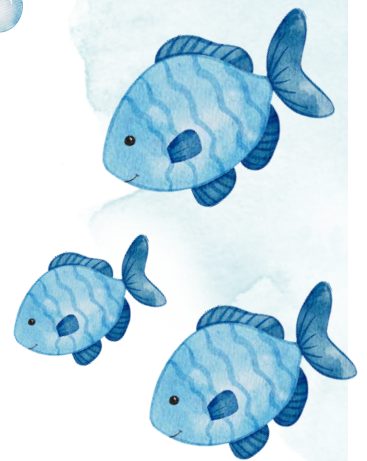


Networks Semi-Formal Dance

UNDER THE SEA



March 28, 2025

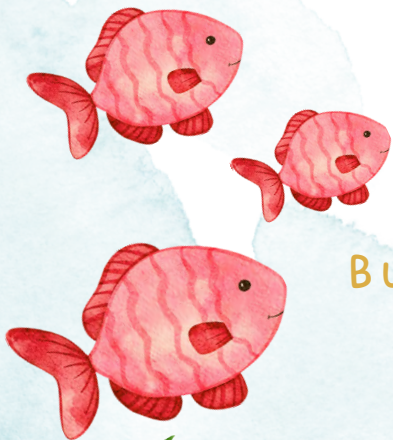


\$25.00

6:00-8:45 P.M.

Aetna Fire Hall

Buy your tickets March 3rd -
March 21st



Networks Annual Chili Fundraiser



***Scan Here to
Order Online***



Delicious Homemade Chili

Red Chili (Beef) & White Chili (Chicken)

\$12.00 per quart

Delivery available for \$5.00

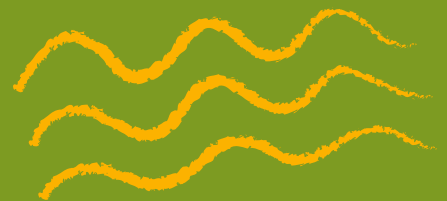
Cash or Check made out to Christina School
District with Networks Chili on the Memo Line

***Order Now - Deadline for orders is
Friday, March 7th.***

Orders will be available for delivery or pick up on:

Wednesday, March 12th or Thursday, March 13th by
2:30pm

Thank You for Supporting Networks Student
Fundraising Events





Happy Spring!
Woodworks Specials

Networks is getting ready for Spring
with some Wooden Spring Specials!

Below are just some of the options for sale now !

There are limited quantities of each item available and the on-line order form will be updated as items run out. Please order early to ensure you get the product you want. You will need to enter the URL address or scan the QR Code below to access the google form to see prices.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdK_QaQs2EfrHdChEDU34JP0rp353nxCEIIPtEneawkHVur6g/viewform



All items are created from reclaimed wood. Please embrace any slight variations from the sample pictures. Please see order form for other selections. There are 10 different selections available for purchase.

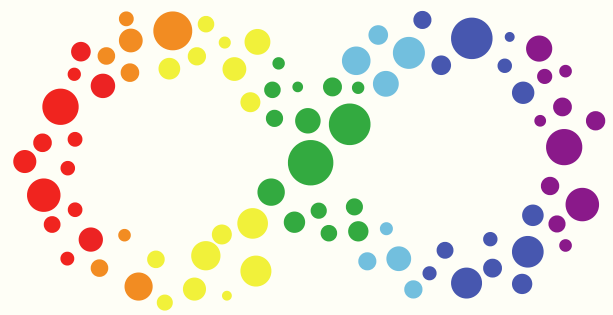
Allow up to 5 school days for your items to be completed and orders can be picked up at Networks or DSD.

Payment in the form of cash or checks should be made out to Christina School District with "Woodworks" written on the memo line.

Expect a call or e-mail from curtis.ballechristina.k12.de.us when your item(s) is complete.

Thank you for your support.





World Autism Awareness Day is Wednesday, April 2nd.

In recognition of this day TEAMworks has designed t-shirts that Networks will be selling for \$12 a shirt for both adults and children.

Shirts come in Adult size Small-6XLarge/Youth sizes XS-XL. The Tee Shirts are unisex so they run more toward men's sizes

Show your support for individuals with Autism, and their families, by purchasing your t-shirt today!

Orders must be placed no later than Friday, March 22nd. Cash or check payments are accepted.

Show your support and get your Autism Awareness T-Shirt today

Payment is due upon pick up of the order (or beforehand).
Cash or check made payable to "Networks PTSA"

Order deadline is March 21, 2025

Contact person for this fundraiser is Kathie Firnkes @ kathleen.firnkes@christina.k12.de.us

To order, click on the link below or scan the QR Code:

<https://forms.gle/hMw3SyR3aTQdbBBY8>



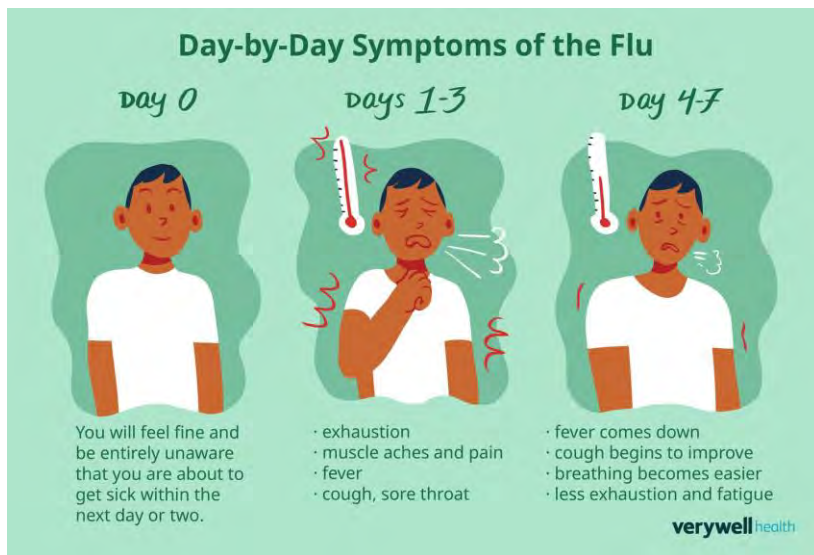


From the Nurse's Office



Even though it is the beginning of March 2025, it is important to note that the 2024–2025 flu season in the United States was and continues to be one of the most severe in at least 15 years. Flu activity is high and widespread, with many people seeking care. This season is now classified as a high severity season overall for all age groups (children, adults and older adults) and it the first high severity season since 2017-2018 flu season according to the CDC. Respiratory illnesses not requiring hospitalization decreased slightly the last week of February from the previous week but remains above the national baseline for the twelfth consecutive week. There has been so far at least 33 million illness, 430 thousand hospitalizations and 19 thousand deaths from the flu so far this season.

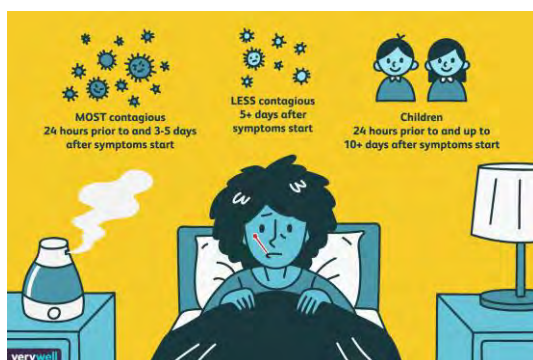
The flu has many symptoms, including fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, and fatigue.



Symptoms of the flu

- **Fever:** Feeling feverish or having chills
- **Cough:** A cough that may affect your sleep
- **Sore throat:** A sore throat that may be accompanied by a cough
- **Body aches:** Muscle or body aches that may feel like pain
- **Fatigue:** Feeling very tired and needing more sleep

Symptoms continue for about five to seven days after. For some, the symptoms may last closer to two weeks. If you have the flu, you are most contagious in the early days of your illness, but you can begin to infect others as soon as one day prior to your own symptoms even appearing.



How the flu spreads

- **Coughing, sneezing, or talking**
When someone with the flu coughs, sneezes, or talks, they can spread the flu virus into the air.
- **Touching contaminated surfaces**
The flu virus can live on surfaces for a short time, including doorknobs, toys, and countertops.
- **Touching your eyes, nose, or mouth**
If you touch a contaminated surface and then touch your eyes, nose, or mouth, you can get the flu.

Prevention

To avoid getting and/or spreading the flu, you can

- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after touching someone who is sick, blowing your nose, or coughing
- Clean frequently touched surfaces
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Wear a mask if you are out in crowded areas to help avoid getting the flu or other respiratory illnesses. Also wear a mask if you are coughing and/or sneezing a lot.
- Consider getting the flu vaccine next fall! The flu vaccine is the best way to prevent spreading the flu.

Stay Well – We LOVE seeing you each and every day!!

AUTOworks

This month, we worked on “Preparing to Apply for a Job”. We created and updated our resumes, and discussed the different parts of the resume. We discussed job applications both online and on paper, teamwork dynamics, using a calendar and how to successfully use your strengths in a job search.



Even though it has been bitterly cold, we continued to detail car interiors for our customers. Hopefully, we will continue to have warm weather in the upcoming weeks so we can provide full vehicle detailing for our customers.



BITWORKS NEWS

BITWORKS TECHNOLOGY



Students are beginning to earn digital badges and certifications through Northstar Digital Literacy for their knowledge of hardware and software systems.

LESSON TOPICS

Nearpod:

Lessons have focused on social skills and self-esteem as well as knowing one's personal data and how to keep it secure.

Move This World:

MTW video-led breathing exercises help us start our classes calm and relaxed.

FEBRUARY MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

In the Classroom

We are practicing writing or reciting one's address, phone number, and email address so students can independently complete forms.



At Training Sites

In addition to our weekly sites, BIT students also help other enterprise areas with pickups of materials and deliveries of products.



At the School Store

The goal is for BIT students to handle the School Store interactions/purchases with other students with only supervision from staff.



CONTACT INFORMATION

Email Addresses:

Colleen.Naccarato@christina.k12.de.us

Jason.Lomas@christina.k12.de.us

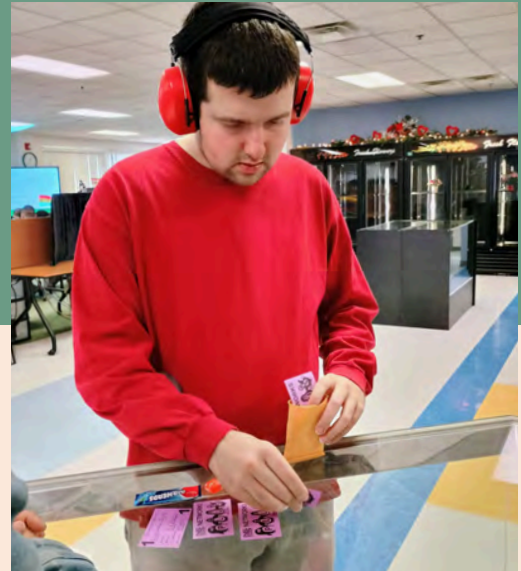
Networks Phone:

(302) 454-2233

REMINDER

Professional Dress days are excellent ways for your student to earn additional PLUSes. Please encourage them to "dress to impress" on March 12th or 13th.

BRENNENWORKS



Thursdays at the School Store

BRENNENworks is always working hard on projects like sorting plastics, counting and packaging gaskets and cotter pins, or packaging projects for Pyramid.

Students in BRENNENworks earn PLUSES for their HARD WORK and look forward to Thursdays at the school store where they can buy snacks, drinks and even small trinkets with their PLUSES!

Thank you to BITworks for running the school store!

**HARD WORK
PAYS OFF!**



COPYworks News!

-February 2025-

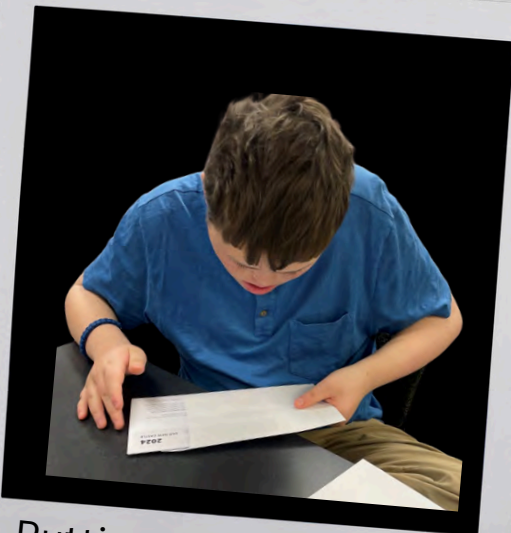
Working on newsletter mailers.



Folding Newsletter



Putting Newsletter into envelope



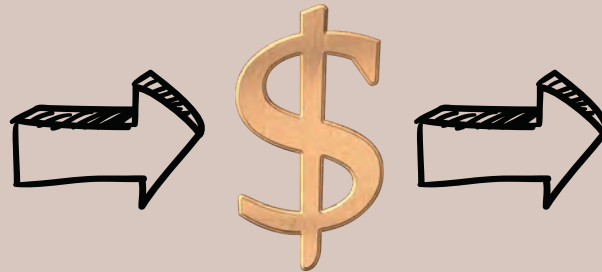
Putting Newsletter into envelope



Folding Newsletter

BANK ACCOUNTS

Because it's a necessity for work these days



INFORMATION ON OPENING BANK ACCOUNTS

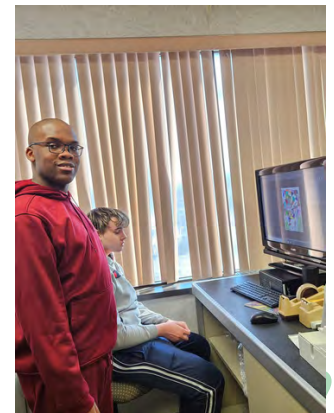
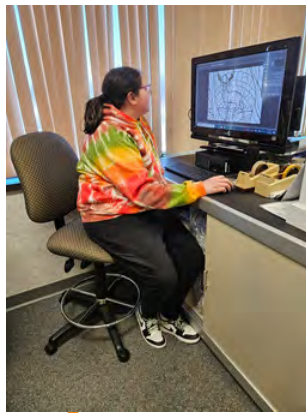
1. Choose a bank: You may want to consider the features, benefits, perks, ATM locations, and types of accounts offered by your choice of bank as well as any applicable monthly service fees and other fees that may apply before opening your bank account.
2. Confirm eligibility requirements: Confirm the bank or credit union's eligibility and age requirements for opening a savings or checking account. For example, you usually need to be at least 18 years old to open a checking account and some banks may require a parent or guardian to be part of the process of opening a student checking account. If you are applying for a child's first savings account or student checking account some banks require both people to be present with their necessary documents.
3. Choose the right accounts for you: Before the application process, you can usually specify what types of products you'd like, such as a checking account, savings account, or both. It's a good idea to read over the account materials and be sure to familiarize yourself with the account features.
4. Confirm deposit requirements: If the bank has a minimum opening deposit requirement, you may need to provide the deposit at the time of applying.
5. Start the application at your bank: Once you have chosen a bank or credit union, and the type of account, go to their local branch or online site to learn more about their application process and what to bring to open a bank account.

Please contact the COOP department if you need any assistance in opening an account with your student.



ETCH Gets Back to Work

ETCHworks is working hard to complete a lot of different customer orders. We have worked on koozies, coffee mugs and even stemless glasses.



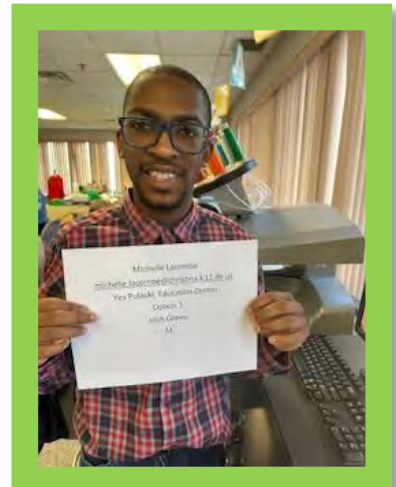
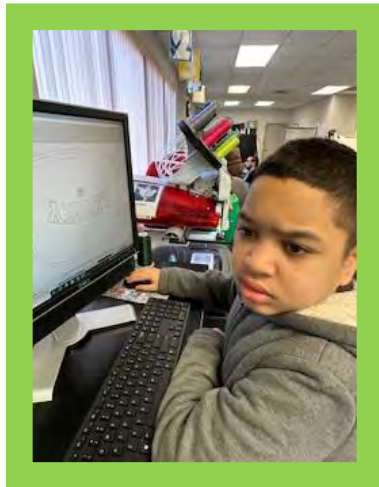
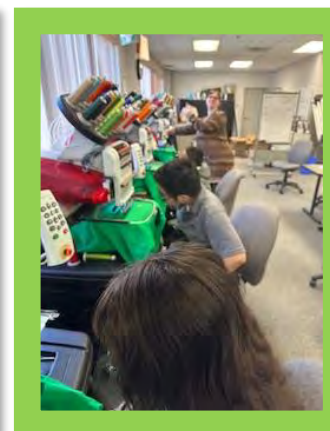
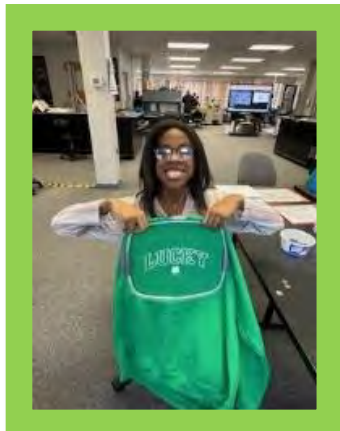
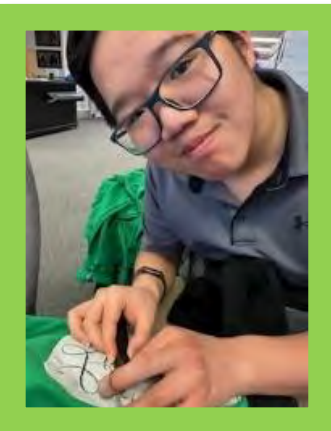
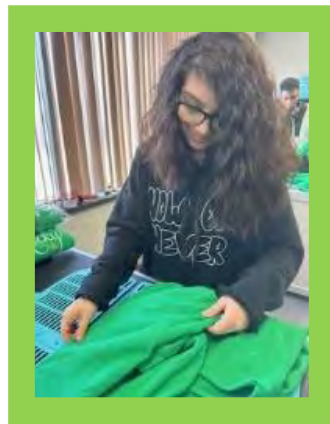


FABRICworks



To help celebrate St. Patrick's Day, FABRICworks has been busy filling customer orders. We are "LUCKY" to have these terrific students who are helping in the production process to keep our customers happy and appropriately dressed for the special holiday.

We truly are lucky to have such amazing teammates!!



FLORALworks

This month our students were busy preparing for our Valentine's Day orders.

The students have been working on improving their independent skills now that we are in the third marking period. They have been busy prepping our roses by removing most of the leaves and all of the thorns. We had to unpack a large order and fill buckets with water and Aqua Plus.

Students helped with arranging the vases with appropriate flowers, making greeting cards, organizing materials and keeping the area clean and safe.

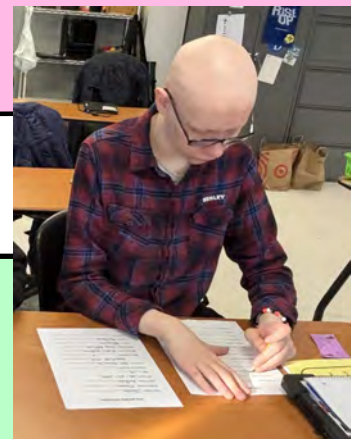
We hope that you all had a wonderful Valentine's Day!



MERCHANTWORKS

IN OUR CLASSROOM

This month in MERCHANTworks students have been practicing completing a variety of forms. This includes personal data forms, employment forms and job applications. In addition, we have been comparing and identifying documents such as birth certificates, social security cards and state identification cards. Students have also been very busy sorting through the clothing donations that poured in during February.



MUNCHWORKS

It Was Another Spectacular *Souper Bowl!*

Orders flooded in from longtime veteran and rookie customers alike.



Turkey Noodle Soup



Tomato Soup



Zuppa Toscana

We made more than 65 quarts of soup and about 80 Oatmeal Dinner Rolls.



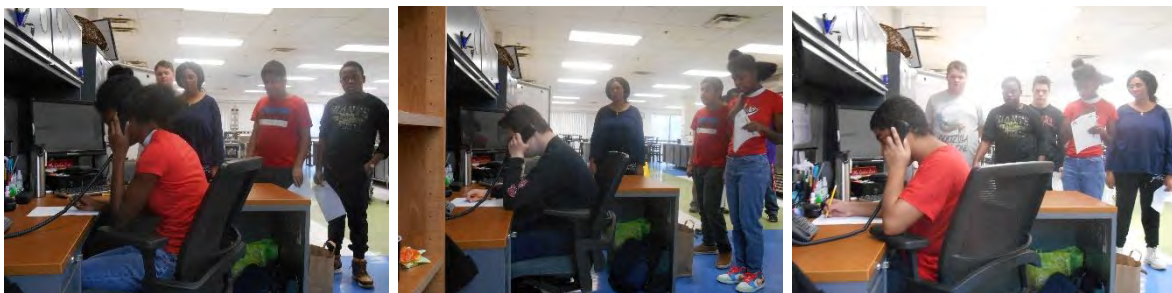
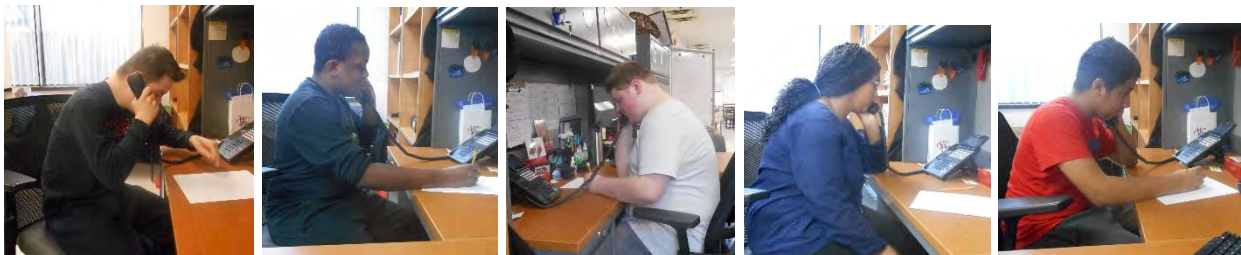
Valentine's Day



To celebrate the auspicious occasion we made, baked and packaged more than 195 *Cranberry Orange Scones*, which we distributed to ALL of Networks' Students and Staff.



Preparing to Apply for a Job
was the focus of our Employability Skills Classes.



We practiced talking on the phone, receiving calls, taking messages, using good phone manners, and introducing ourselves using the acronym GNAP.



RECYCLEworks



RECYCLEworks has been busy sorting and shredding plastics. Students have become efficient and independent at sorting by number and color. Our shredder turns bottles into tiny plastic flakes, ready to be melted and turned into something amazing.

Stay tuned...



FLORALWORKS SPRING SALE



SPRING TIME
\$22



PRETTY PASTELS
\$27



HOW SWEET IT IS
\$35



[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/7HXUINQSCVWPZBSV9](https://forms.gle/7HXUINQSCVWPZBSV9)

Order Deadline is April 11th
Orders ready for pick up or delivery on April 17th
Any concerns, email anna.farro@christina.k12.de.us



This month we created designs and printed shirts for our Networks Penguins Special Olympic team to make sure they looked great during the Polar Plunge and their Snowshoeing competition. We designed a special edition t-shirt to help celebrate the Eagles Super Bowl WIN!! Finally, we created and started printing shirts to celebrate Autism Awareness. Did you order your shirt?



Limited Edition

Go Penguins!!!

TRADEworks



TRADEworks students continue to work in the community completing housekeeping/custodial jobs at various sites. Our focus during classroom time has been preparing students to obtain employment. We have been working on personal data, job applications and resumes. Students have also been working on understanding goals and how to achieve them whether short or long term. We continue to practice self-reflection and self-care and being the best, we can be. Several of our students participated in Professional Dress Days and earned PLUSes that they can use for upcoming events.



Congratulations to Mary O. on being named TRADEworks Student of the Month.



Voc Arts

The Vocational Arts program has been continuing to ramp up our activities and create new jobs over the past month. We have some of our students mastering existing jobs and some of our students learning to complete new jobs, as well as learning how to work for longer periods of time and learning to do jobs with less help from others. We continue to provide opportunities for our students to experience a day in Shue-Medill Middle School. For instance, our fitness time in the gym. We are learning new skills and building on existing ones! We have a lot of fun here.



Many of our students split their day between our classroom and the Networks Main building. They are learning how to make transitions during the day and are succeeding. We look forward to seeing the progress that all of our students make.

WOODworks

This month in our WOODworks class, we completed all of our Valentine's Day orders. This was the first time we have used our Cricut to make orders for customers.

Students had the opportunity to make their own wooden hearts for someone special. It was a great opportunity for them to showcase their skills and creativity while spreading a little kindness.

With these projects complete, we're now shifting gears and embracing the upcoming season by starting on some exciting spring-themed creations.

Stay tuned to see the wonderful work our students bring to life! There is a flyer in this Newsletter showcasing all our new, spring specials.



Kindness, Gratitude and Your Wellness



This month let's take a moment to focus on how having an attitude of gratitude affects your wellness and mental health. While it may be difficult at times to find things you're grateful for, trying to see the good in hard times is an essential life skill.

Showing gratitude has the following mental health benefits:

- Expressing gratitude can improve your mood. People who regularly express gratitude for the positive things in their life are shown to be happier overall, leading to lower rates of stress and depression.
- Showing gratitude can make you more optimistic. Studies show that those who express gratitude regularly appear to have a more positive outlook on life.
- Sharing gratitude can improve social bonds. People have reported feeling more loved and more connected to others in their lives when they routinely practice gratitude or those around them practice gratitude.
- Practicing gratitude can improve your physical health. People who actively express gratitude tend to be more engaged in activities to take care of their physical health, like eating well and exercising. This leads to higher energy levels, better sleep and a stronger immune system, or the ability to fight off illness or infection.

As you can see, you have immediate and long term benefits from exercising gratitude and being

thankful for the things in your life that are good. Take time this month to practice this skill by taking the gratitude challenge.

25 DAY GRATITUDE CHALLENGE

1. Someone you're thankful for
2. Something that makes you smile
3. A food you love
4. Someone that goes unnoticed
5. A favorite book and movie
6. A favorite animal
7. Something unique about you
8. Something beautiful
9. Something that challenges you
10. Beautiful art
11. Something happy
12. A favorite song
13. Something funny
14. Something unique
15. Your favorite foods
16. Something that's helped you
17. Someone in your family
18. A favorite sound
19. Something sweet
20. Freedom
21. A good friend
22. A favorite smell
23. Someone who has taught you something
24. Someone who has helped you
25. Someone you love



Kindness

Kindness in action has a butterfly effect. A butterfly effect is described as one small action that can cause a ripple effect. Kindness in action can have a lasting impact on those around you and the culture of your community. Acts of kindness, whether it's a kind word, a held door, a smile in the morning, a wave to your neighbor, allowing someone ahead of you in line, a genuine compliment, a note of gratitude, all can ripple through the hearts and minds of many. Meanwhile, it makes you feel great. It activates a different part of your mind and soul to act out of kindness without regard for what you will get from it yourself. Look for kindness in action around the your school and community. Make sure you mention

what you see to others. You will see and experience kindness from others if only you keep your eyes open for it.

