

PANTHER PAWS

September 2025
Climax-Scotts Jr./Sr. High School
Climax, Michigan 49034



Homecoming Game

By Liam Lasala

This year for our Homecoming Game the Panthers took on Battle Creek St. Philip on September 26th. The game was a big win for the Panthers as they defeated the Tigers 66-0! We were off to a strong start by scoring 38 points in the 1st quarter alone. Our defense was also playing well with 3 sacks and 8 tackles for loss! At half time our homecoming court walked to the 50 yard line and the king and queen were announced as well. The queen this year was Ashlynn Gilbert, and Malcolm Smith was the king. We also had a banner competition between the high school classes. This year the Freshman class was voted as the class with the best looking banner!



Left: Homecoming Royalty! King Malcolm Smith and Queen Ashlynn Gilbert pose together for a picture:

Right: Running for 6! Senior halfback Liam Lasala runs for pay dirt. (Photo credit: Lindsey Wyman)



Student Council Elections

By Chloe Czuk

The school recently held an election for student council . Here are the results of that election:

Freshmen class - President: Alyse Langs, Vice President: Laiken Meade, Secretary: Olivia Bolt, and Treasurer: Mckenna Shea.

Sophomore class - President: Kennedy Smith, Vice President: Nyle Sattler, Secretary: Addisyn Krick, and Treasurer: Alyssa Morrison.

Junior class - President: Ethan Seage, Vice President: Kendal Reitz, Secretary: Michaela Carillo, and Treasurer: Cole Birkam.

Senior class - President: Jane Carillo, Vice President: Ashlynn Gilbert, Secretary: Liam LaSala, and Co-treasurers: Holly Talbert and Addy Reeves.

Congratulations to all of the candidates who were elected!

Welcome 6th Graders!

By Andrea Santos-Sabino

This year we are welcoming new 6th graders into our building! We are so happy to have them here! We decided to interview a couple of our 6th graders and ask about their time here so far!

Evan Clore

How are you liking 6th grade so far?
Good

Who is your favorite teacher so far?
Mrs. Reichert and Mrs. Rork

What are you most excited for this year?
Not getting in trouble



Xavier Snider

How are you liking 6th grade so far?
Pretty good

Who is your favorite teacher so far?
Mr. Easlick

What are you most excited for this year?
Nothing



Gavin Dunn

How are you liking 6th grade so far?
Its ok

Who is your favorite teacher so far?
Mrs. Rork, Mrs. Newland, Ms. Woodworth, and Mr. Easlick

What are you most excited for this year?
End of year



Rylee Tiller

How are you liking 6th grade so far?
I like it a lot.

Who is your favorite teacher so far?
Mrs. Newland, Mrs. Reichert, Ms. Paige, and Mr. Easlick

What are you most excited for this year?
More freedom



Hannah Gonzalez

How are you liking 6th grade so far?
Pretty good

Who is your favorite teacher so far?
Ms. Paige and Mrs. Rork

What are you most excited for this year?
Getting to play my instrument (clarinet)



Allisson Santos-Sabino

How are you liking 6th grade so far?
Good

Who is your favorite teacher so far?
Ms. Paige and Mrs. Rork

What are you most excited for this year?
Track



Spirit Week

By Julia Guelcek

Last week our school changed into a colorful and creative place of joy and school spirit. The reason for this was the Spirit Week. From September 22nd-26th, every day had a special theme and the students participated with enthusiasm and creative outfits.

The week started with "Hawaiian Day" on Monday. A lot of Hawaiian shirts and flower necklaces were seen. Some students had whole outfits with skirts made out of leaves or coconut accessories. It wasn't only students too! The staff and teachers were wearing bright colors and sun glasses too.

On Tuesday we had "Jersey Day". There was a variety of football, basketball and soccer jerseys in the hallways. The students showed their love for sports and honored their idols.

Wednesday was a very colorful day. The students wore their class colors, while the staff was dressed in purple. The feeling of belonging was especially noticeable in the cafeteria, where each class took a class photo.

The favorite day of a lot of students was definitely the "Anything but a backpack" day on Thursday. From mini cars, shopping carts, to golf bags and children's toilets, everything was there. The students had a lot of fun. There were many creative and unusual interpretations of the theme like air fryer, pots and strollers. Some students had small vehicles with which they drove through the hallways.

"Blue and gold" was the theme for the last day of our spirit week 2025 and everyone was giving their best once again. The panther spirit was within reach. During the assembly, prizes were awarded to the outfits that best demonstrated our school spirit.

The spirit week showed the CS- Panther spirit and how great it is to be part of something. It was very special to see how much fun everyone had and how many people participated. Not only the students and teachers, but also many staff members, such as our school deputy, which showed how important this week is for so many people at our school.



Above: Aubrey Rose and Nina Garcia-Delgado laugh while participating in Tug Of War. (Photo: C-S Publications)



Above: Easton Vanmiddlesworth strikes a pose on Class Color Day. (Photo Credit C-S Publications)

Foreign Exchange

By Ilona Kovach-Fitzsimmons

In our 2025-2026 school year, we have 3 exchange students. Julia Guelcek (who is from South Germany), Azelya Zelinski (who's from Belgium), and Martina Garcia (who is from Spain).

Julia's host family is the Maxas. When asked why she wanted to become a student in the U.S, she said, "I wanted to get the All-American experience, and see if high school here was like it seemed in the movies." Julia is on the Publications staff.

Azelya and Martina are both staying with the Bates family. They have both joined the varsity volleyball team and are having a lot of fun!



Above: Our exchange students gather together for a picture. (Photo Credit: C-S Publications)

Introducing Mrs. Taunt

By Madisyn Gross

Allow us to introduce Mrs. Taunt: the new high school history teacher. Coming from Athens, she changed districts to be on the same master calendar as her children, and it shortened her drive by 15 minutes. She also really enjoyed working here in the alternative program years ago.

She enjoys teaching! She said that every job comes with its difficult parts, but she really enjoys presenting history in a different way! She loves softball. She still plays when she can, but she is enjoying watching her two daughters on their softball journey.

She started college as a music major and did four years of marching and concert band at WMU. That is a little information about her and some fun facts!



Above: Mrs. Taunt teaches her class. (Photo Credit: C-S Publications)

Meet. Mrs. Pike

By Kaitlyn Keller

Let's meet Mrs. Pike, who is another new teacher at C-S. Mrs. Pike has lived in the Climax-Scotts area for most of her life. She also graduated from C-S awhile ago and moved back with her family about 26 years ago. Before moving back to Climax, she and her family lived in Plainwell. They moved back to Climax to be close to her parents, but also they liked the area. She said she liked the community because it has a "family feel" with how people come together to help each other out.

The next question was "why did you decide to return from retirement?" Her response was, "When I retired from Battle Creek Public Schools, I knew that I would eventually go back to work. I did not plan on working this fall but when this opportunity came about, I could not resist going back to the high school I graduated from. I am really enjoying it here."

We are so glad you decided to join the Panther community and we hope you love it here at C-S.



Above: Mrs. Pike shows off her school spirit. (Photo Credit: C-S Publications)

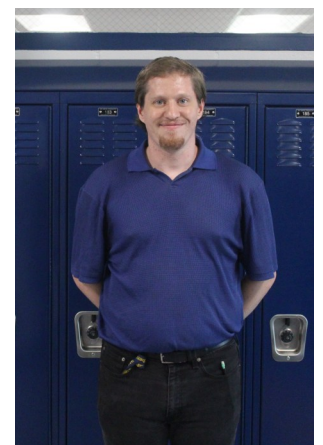
Say Hello to Mr. Wilson

By Demarion Taylor

Mr. Wilson is one of Climax-Scotts' new math teachers. This is his first year teaching. Although he did not go to college to become a teacher, he is excited about the opportunity to teach now. He is teaching Algebra, Geometry, and a new class called Sports Stats. Mr. Wilson has been welcomed by his students for his kindness and willingness to spend extra time with students. He has hobbies that he enjoys such as playing chess and watching League of Legends esports.

He enjoys sports, though he himself has said he's not the greatest at them, but still enjoys them. He especially enjoys discussing sports statistics! He is a great addition to the Climax-Scotts teaching staff, and we are glad to have him.

Below: right Mr. Wilson is a welcome addition to the C-S community. (Photo Credit: C-S Publications)



Seniors Being Seniors

By Annabelle Saltzman

I interviewed 4 seniors, Ilona Kovach-Fitzsimmons, Brodie Olson, Kaitlyn Keller, and Zoe Gates, to see how their year is going so far.

Ilona said that it's going pretty good so far but it's also pretty boring because it's the beginning of the year. Her favorite subject is English.

The next person I interviewed was Zoe Gates. She said that this year is definitely way easier than her junior year. Her favorite subject is most definitely art.

The third person I interviewed was Kaitlyn Keller. She said that her senior year is going really great and that she loves making the memories during her last year in high school. Her favorite class is her CTE pharmacy tech class.

The last senior I interviewed was Brodie Olson. He said that this year is going decently. His favorite class is advanced PE. I hope everyone has a good senior year!



Above: Ilona, Kaitlyn, and Brodie demonstrate an entire array of differing emotions to posing for this photo. (Photo Credit: C-S Publications)

Guest Speaker: Craig Scott from Columbine High

By Zoe Smith

First things first, I just want to thank Craig Scott for taking time to come visit our school and to share his and his sister's story with our school on September 2nd.

The Columbine shooting was a very traumatic event that happened on April 20th, 1999. Since then, Craig has been on multiple documentaries and been travelling to schools to tell his story and give students guidance.

I interviewed one of my classmates, Annabelle Saltzman, on how she felt about the assembly.

Annabelle said "I thought it was a very sad story and felt that he is doing an amazing thing by sharing his and his sister's story." She added, "It was a very good thing for our school to hear and to know what could happen and how traumatizing it could be if it was to happen to us."

Overall, it was an experience that touched many of our students. There were very few dry eyes. We are so grateful again that Craig had the courage to share it with us.

Non-Discrimination Clause It is the policy of this district to not discriminate in our programs, activities, or services by race, color, national origin, sex, or disability. For questions, concerns, or to report any potential violation please contact Superintendent Newington at 372 S. Main St., Climax, MI doug.newington@csschools.net, 269.746.2401.

Senior Spotlight

Ilona Kovach-Fitzsimmons

Favorite Memory of school at C-S? Going to the Shakespeare Field Trip

Current goals for senior year? Whoever makes the next sibling page makes it as good as Kaylee and I did

Plans after high school? Attending Wayne State University to study criminology and psychology

Good word of advice to underclassmen? Don't try to act better than anyone else, you're not...



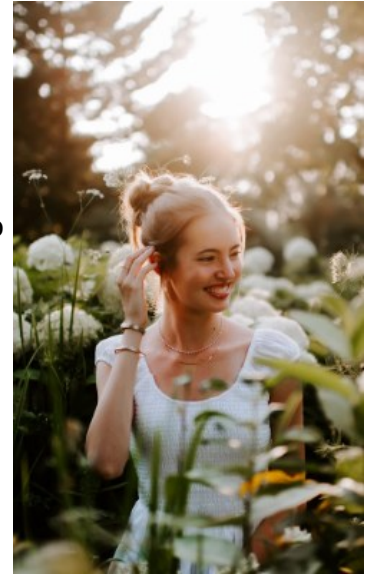
Paige Amos

Favorite Memory of school at C-S? Having classes with my friends

What legacy do you hope to leave behind? I hope I leave a good legacy behind.

What plans do you have after high school? My plans are to finish my associate's degree at KVCC and then go to dental hygiene school

What advice do you have for underclassmen? Make sure you are nice to your teachers



Nathan Arnett

Favorite Memory of school at C-S? My favorite memory was when I first came to the school everybody was so friendly.

What legacy do you hope to leave behind? A legacy that I hope to leave behind is that I was mid at wrestling.

What plans do you have after high school? My plans for after high school is to work for KDPS.

What advice do you have for underclassmen? "Don't be afraid to do something you know is right"



Johann Aguilar-Albarran

Favorite Memory of school at C-S? Freshmen and sophomore year JV basketball season

What legacy do you hope to leave behind? A good and amazing legacy

What plans do you have after high school? Continue playing soccer for a college/university

What advice do you have for underclassmen? Take a chance on people rather than give the same person too many chances

