

# Weekly Wissahickon 10-23-2020

1 message

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# Message from CEO

Dear Families,

I hope this finds you all well. I want to thank everyone who took our surveys last week. It has been great to see the feedback, which has been overwhelmingly positive, and I know some suggestions are already proving helpful.

I also wanted to share some good news with you today! A generous friend of the school has offered us a **\$50,000 matching gift**. For every dollar we raise, up to **\$50,000**, this friend will make a matching gift. We're quite close to hitting our goal with about \$4000 more to raise. If you have the ability to make a donation or know someone who does, please consider it. You can give at our website: <u>http://</u>wissahickoncharter.org/giving/give-now.

Many thanks, Kristi



Behind the scenes look at Ishmell Bradley, Director of Technology, preparing iPads for our K-2 students. Chromebooks ARE coming soon...

# **\*NEW\*** Updates

# Updated & Starting Today: Friday Zooms for 4th-8th Grade End at 12 Noon

We've been hearing from the family survey and from staff that many kids need more time & support to catch up on work, learn the material and have time off-screen.

Beginning Friday, October 23, 4th-8th grade students will meet with teachers on Zoom only till 12pm, just like K-3 has been doing. During the morning, they will have time to catch up on work with teachers' support, and have off-screen or more independent catch-up time in the afternoon. Celebrations & special events will still be held Friday afternoons. We may adjust the times of these.

Homeroom teachers will share Friday schedules for these grades next week on Google Classroom. **Note: Some** middle school students will finish at 11am, and others will be required to stay on till noon. Teachers will be in touch with this information.

### New: Trimester 1 Earned Celebration, Thurs, 10/29, 3:30-4pm

Next week, teachers will let you know if your child earned the Trimester 1 interims celebration.

- K-2 students must earn the top two categories on weekly reports consistently.

- 3rd-8th students must earn all Cs or better (no C-s), all 1's and 2's for effort, and no more than 1 absence average per month.

Next week's celebration is a chance for students to dress up as superheroes while learning real martial arts skills with ACTION KARATE. Students who complete the special event will even get the chance to earn their white belts.

### New: Zoom Picture Day, Friday, October 30, 8:30-8:45am

All students should come in their best dress Friday. We'll take screenshots of classes & share them with families after. (Any family who does not want their child to participate should let their homeroom teacher know.) Right after Picture Day, 3rd-8th graders will join an all-school assembly. Link will be shared Friday. Reminder: WCS does not celebrate Halloween, so please no costumes. Thanks!

### New: Recess Club

Starting next week, we are offering a yoga club for 4th & 5th graders with Ms. Christine. Yoga will be every Tuesday from 12-12:30 (don't worry, you'll still have time for lunch!) and it is drop-in, just like

our regular recesses. No need to sign up or bring anything, just wear comfy clothing! <u>Here</u> is the link, and it is shared on Classtag as well.

#### **Black is Beautiful Initiative**

This week's Black is Beautiful fact is from our 4th-5th grades. Fact: John Mercer Langston was the first black man to become a lawyer when he passed the bar in <u>Ohio</u> in 1854. Important Date: 1854

# **Important Reminders**

### Open Enrollment @ WCS for 2021-22 SY

If you already have a child in our school and are interested in applying for a sibling, you will need to apply using Apply Philly Charter. The application is open now and will close January 25, 2022. Click <u>here</u> to apply.

### Meal Distribution

Any student in Philadelphia (18 years of age or under) will be able to get meals from our schools. We will have raffle prizes with Meal Distribution through the end of the month. See the flyer <u>here</u> for more details.

#### Follow Wissahickon Charter on Social Media

Follow WCS on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u> for important school updates and to see student learning and fun in action! And don't be shy- we love it when you like, comment, and share our posts!

# Voting Corner

The voter registration deadline for this year's election has now passed, so at this point your focus you should be on making a plan to vote and helping your friends and family do the same. How you vote has to be a personal decision based on your own circumstances. Voting in person is generally safe when the proper precautions are in place, most importantly wearing a mask and avoiding sustained close contact with others.

Voting using a mail-in ballot is another great option. While you can still request a mail-in ballot through next Tuesday, October 27, it is important to submit your ballot as soon as possible. At this point, all <u>17</u> <u>satellite elections offices</u> are open; you can drop off a completed ballot or request and receive one on the spot. Remember to follow all instructions, including sealing your ballot in its security envelope before placing it in your return envelope and signing your return envelope where indicated. <u>This video</u> is a good guide if you are not sure, and elections officials at the satellite offices can also help. While mail-in ballots cannot be opened by elections officials until 7:00am on Election Day, elections officials in Philadelphia and elsewhere have increased staffing hours and purchased machines to expedite vote counting, and ballots submitted earlier have a good chance of being counted within 24 hours. Dropping off your mail-in ballot will also help shorten lines on Election Day for voters who were unable to plan ahead, making it more likely that everyone who wants to vote this year can do so.

If you previously requested a mail-in ballot but now want to vote in-person, you must bring your mail-in ballot and both envelopes to surrender at the polling place (see all locations <u>here</u> and find yours using your address <u>here</u>). Otherwise, you will have to submit a provisional ballot, which might take even longer to process than a mail-in ballot. You will also need to fill out an affidavit surrendering your ballot, so it might take longer than a typical trip to the polls. Keep in mind that many polling places will be staffed by first-time workers, so consider voting during off-peak hours if you are surrendering a mail-in ballot.

### Important Dates

Saturday, 10/24: Hiking Meet up @ Bluebell Meadow 10-11am

Thursday, 10/29: October Monthly Earned Celebration 3:30-4pm; Hiking Meet up @ Bluebell Meadow 4-

5pm

Friday, 10/30: K-8 Zoom Picture Day (8:30-8:45am) & 3rd-8th Grade Assembly (8:45am)

10/26-10/30: 8th grade High School Advising meetings



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