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Weekly Wissahickon 1/15/2021

1 message

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To: awbury@wissahickoncharter.org

Fri, Jan 15, 2021 at 8:59 AM

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Wissahickon
CHARTER SCHOOL

A Message From Dean Kristi:

Dear Families,

I have several important things to share with you this week!

First, the PA Dept. of Health and PDE are now recommending that younger students return to school even though the rate of infection locally is still substantial. We are weighing this recommendation seriously and will stay in touch with you as we develop more plans in response to this guidance.

Secondly, you can now sign up to get on a list for a vaccine- [go here](#). You first have to create an account and then they will email you a link to use to log in. Once logged in, you click on the link to make a pre-commitment to get a

vaccine. Once you are pre-committed they should stay in touch with next steps. You can also request a vaccine through the Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium by clicking [here](#). Wissahickon encourages our community members to get vaccinated.

Finally, we are launching a new program called Securly, a cloud-based filter and classroom device management platform. The first phase provides a filter that alerts the school anytime a student uses their WCS device for a variety of flagged purposes. **You, as parents/guardians, will be able to see your child's internet use whenever your child is logged into their WCS Google account on a personal Chromebook or on a WCS device.** You will also be given the power to receive alerts or to restrict certain websites of your choosing in addition to the ones that Securly and WCS have blocked. **You will need to activate this when info. is shared Friday, January 15th of this week.** Kindergarten, first grade, and second-grade families please note, our parent portal only works with Chromebooks; however, Securly does provide basic filtering on our iPads.

Thank you,

Kristi

Essential:

Important Dates

January 18th - Martin Luther King Day - Administrative Offices and Schools are CLOSED

January 19th, @ 06:00 PM - WPP Meeting, zoom link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86034246607>

Meeting ID: 860 3424 6607

Attendance

If your child will be absent, late or you need to send in a note or any documentation pertaining to attendance please do not send them to your child's teacher. **Please email all correspondence and documentation to aw.attendance@wissahickoncharter.org**

Health Screening Reminders

K, 1st, and 6th grade families: Please remember to sign up [here](#) for your child's health screening any Monday or Friday (from January 11th - March

19th). As a reminder, even if you have submitted your child's physical, they still must be screened by the school nurse. For more information, please refer to the Classtag message forwarded on Tuesday, January 5, 2021.

New!! 4th -8th grade chat groups!!

One of our priorities, as an institution, during remote learning has been to make sure that students feel connected to all parts of their school community. At the start of the new year, in reviewing our priorities, we realized that we could do a better job of this. In a normal school day, students are talking constantly with their peers, whether it's on the bus, during intake, at lunch or the walk home, to the tune of about 7.5 hours a school day.

We surveyed our upper grade students (4-8th) and found that many students are only socializing with peers, outside of class time, for about 1 hour or less! This lack in peer socialization can have lasting negative effects on students. In order to combat this issue and get kids talking and hanging with their peers, we have developed after school "Chat Groups" based off of students' interest shared out in the student survey. These groups start next week on Tuesday, January 19th!! While they are optional, they are HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. [Here](#) are the 4/5th grade offerings and [here](#) are the MS offerings. All links and passwords are embedded in the offerings flyer. These flyers are also posted on your students Google Classrooms. For more information/questions, please contact Ms. [Lovelee Polite](#)

Special Opportunity for Motivated 7th Grade Boys!!

The Saint Katharine Drexel Program at La Salle College High School application season is now open!! Their upcoming Spring Session provides Saturday Academic Enrichment and a college preparatory high school experience for motivated 7th grade boys at NO CHARGE. Registration for the 2021 Spring Session closes on Friday, January 29th. If you have questions about the program, please contact:

Patrick Heasley at heasley@lschs.org.

On Radar:

Free Reading Workshops for Parents

Thursday, January 28, 1-3 PM

Learn more about ways to support your child's literacy education at home, what or how they are learning in school, how to best engage in home literacy projects, and more.

These days are typically 2-3 hours long, composed of a series of 15-minute small-group presentations. Parents and caregivers can choose the workshops that match their needs and are free to come for one workshop or many. A schedule will be sent before it starts to those who register.

Sign up here:

<https://tcrwp.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJludu-orzMrGdUN0lyGUGksRGCvS2Sjp9E5>

EXTRAS:

CARES Champions!

Congratulations to this week's CARES CHAMPIONS!

K-5

Kindergarten: Ray'Ann Ortiz is always ready to learn each day! Her smile and great cheer always brightens up the Zoom class each morning with her "Good Morning's" and sometimes a sweet story. She is always engaged and never hesitates to use assertion during class time. Ray'Ann keep up the great work!

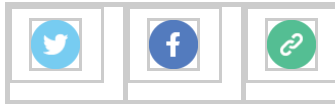
2nd Grade: Tiffany Moody is rockstar student! She embraces all of our CARES values everyday. She comes to school prepared with her materials and ready to learn. She is also a responsible, caring, and supportive classmate who is always willing to help a friend.

3rd Grade: Selamawit Shareef-Trudeau is an outstanding 312 student and friend! She always demonstrates CARES values in her actions and work. Selamawit helps all of us grow by sharing her thoughts, ideas, and questions in class. She comes to class ready to learn, ready to share, and ready to collaborate with her classmates. She is thoughtful, creative, kind, and hard-working. Keep up the fantastic work, Lama!

January Activities Calendar!!

- The environmental committee has created another activity calendar for off-screen opportunities for the WCS community. The links are posted in your students Google Classrooms/SeeSaw accounts.

JANUARY ACTIVITY CALENDAR						
CHECK OUT THE ACTIVITIES BELOW FOR SOME OFF SCREEN FUN. ALL UNDERLINED ACTIVITIES ARE HYPERLINKED. ENJOY!						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<u>Volunteer with Friends of the Wissahickon</u>	<u>Make Your Own Snow</u>	<u>Go ice skating at Dilworth Plaza</u>	<u>Read a book about winter</u>	<u>Make a snow mix in a sock cut</u>	<u>Check out the Chazy Brook Farm light show</u>	<u>Go Breathe snow!</u>
<u>Try Geocaching with an adult</u>	<u>Learn how to crochet</u>	<u>Make your own paper snowflakes</u>	<u>Have an indoor picnic</u>	<u>Make Paper Ball Snowman Craft</u>	<u>Make snow candy</u>	<u>Best winter animal crafts</u>
<u>Make a snow cake mix</u>	<u>Participate in an MLK Day of Service</u>	<u>Make your own marshmallows</u>	<u>Use Cotton Pom-poms</u>	<u>Collect rocks and Make a Kindness Rock</u>	<u>Melted Snowman Goo</u>	<u>Make an indoor scavenger hunt or try this one</u>
<u>Make a birdfeeder</u>	<u>Make rock crystal candy</u>	<u>Winter Tree Nature Project</u>	<u>Try this fun holiday experiment</u>	<u>Make a winter sun catcher</u>	<u>Make Paper Snow Globes</u>	<u>Do a melting ice science experiment</u>



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