



Walsh, Jane <j.walsh@wissahickoncharter.org>

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## Weekly Wissahickon 3-26-2021

1 message

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**WCS-Fernhill** <fh.frontoffice@wissahickoncharter.org>  
Reply-To: WCS-Fernhill <fh.frontoffice@wissahickoncharter.org>  
To: Jane Walsh <j.walsh@wissahickoncharter.org>

Fri, Mar 26, 2021 at 7:43 AM

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### [Message from CEO](#)

Dear Families,

As we head into spring break, I can't help but feel hopeful about what lies ahead. I know that this past year has been challenging in so many ways. I also know that this hardship isn't completely behind us. Still, with more and more people being vaccinated in the city and with the CDC's new guidelines that students can social distance safely at three feet (rather than the six feet that was previously recommended), it feels like there is a light at the tunnel.

#### **Spring Plans and Looking to the Fall**

For Wissahickon, as you know, we will launch our Remote Access Centers and our in person Kindergarten programs in April. The number of students coming in represents 25% of our total student body, which is a higher percentage than most schools in Philadelphia. If we had more time in the year remaining, we would bring back additional grades or groups. Because of the timing, we do not have any plans to bring back additional students this year. Nonetheless, this work with this 25% is vitally important to every student and family as we plan for fall. This is the time to practice and refine all of the protocols that may still be needed when 100% of us are back together, as I have confidence we will be in September.

#### **New Programs and Positions**

As we work on planning our in person programs for this spring, we are also looking ahead to determine what will serve all students best when they return in the fall. Over the next two years, Wissahickon will receive federal funding to provide much needed support and programs. We are thinking about the emotional and academic toll that this time has taken on our children and the potential programs or positions needed to address it. We will want to hear from WCS families and students around this planning.

#### **Consistency in Leadership**

Finally, I want to share that every member of our Cross Site Leadership Team is returning next year. We have 14 people on this team with a combined 136 years of experience at our schools-- not in education-- at our schools. This kind of consistency in schools is incredibly rare. We stay because we get to partner with incredible colleagues and families doing work that really matters, serving children who we truly love, centering the values that we all believe in. The fact of this gives me real peace as we look

ahead, even while things are still difficult.

Peace,  
Kristi

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## **Essential:**

### **T2 Honors Celebration is Today from 11:00-12:00!!**

Families of honors students received an emailed invitation!

All 3rd-8th grade students welcome. All families of honors students (as well as K-2 siblings) are invited to join in the celebration. See you at 11:00

[Click here to join the celebration.](#)

### **Families with Food Insecurity**

Families, if you are experiencing any food insecurity, please let Ms. Aitiya and Ms. Rebecca know. We have some funds and an organization who could provide support.

### **Note From Learning Support Team**

Parents, If your child has an IEP and qualifies for **Extended School Year**, the survey is now closed. If you missed it and want your child to attend remote ESY this July, please contact [michele@wissahickoncharter.org](mailto:michele@wissahickoncharter.org)

### **A Request from The Development Team**

Hi Wissahickon Families! We are creating a newsletter to share with our donors and supporters which will showcase the many successes of this past year and we want to include YOUR experiences because you are the most important part of our school! This survey is completely **OPTIONAL** for those who want to participate! Thank you so much!

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1Xu6ZCco1NtW4as\\_5unVxLVZfg12rod5osWWuHO4TaVw/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1Xu6ZCco1NtW4as_5unVxLVZfg12rod5osWWuHO4TaVw/edit)

### **Free Dental Care**

Does your child need free dental care? The School District is partnering with PCCY for Give Kids a Smile Week during Spring Break, March 29 - April 2. Smile Week provides free dental care for children 0-18 years old, particularly children who are uninsured, underinsured, or haven't been to the dentist in over a year. This year dental care is also available on additional days throughout April.

Please call PCCY at 215-563-5848 extension 21 to make an appointment. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/3eIPiMk>.

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## **On Radar:**

### **Guitar Lessons**

Michael Weiss is a current Wissahickon parent who is offering amazing acoustic lessons to Wissahickon students. He is available to take on guitar and bass students Friday afternoons generally from 1pm to 5pm virtually. His fee is \$20 for a half hour. If you are interested please send him an email @ [mikemewithoutyou@gmail.com](mailto:mikemewithoutyou@gmail.com), thank you for your interest.

### **Report cards are coming, that means so is the Book Fair!!!!**

Shop the Scholastic Book Fair... from Home!

Our Virtual Book Fair, hosted by Scholastic, will run online from **Monday, March 15 through March 28, 2020**. Your purchases support our library and your child's love of reading.

The book fair site will go live for shopping on March 15, 2021. You can go to the following link to shop:

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/wcsfh>

Browse the Book Fair Flier here: <https://bookfairsfiles.scholastic.com/flippingbooks/F20-online-booklist/F20-online-booklist.html>

**\*Breaking News! We have a limited number of gift cards available for the Book Fair! If you would like to win a gift card for the Scholastic Book Fair, families or your scholars can email Ms. Kourtney at [kourtneyg@wissahickoncharter.org](mailto:kourtneyg@wissahickoncharter.org) your student/s favorite book and I will alert you if you won!\*** Shipping is free for **book orders(non-book orders will charge shipping)** over \$25! Shipping this season is even more strained, shipment will likely take at least two weeks to arrive.

Thank you as always for supporting our school library and your student's love of books!  
Ms. Kourtney  
WCS Fernhill Librarian

### [The Caribbean is Beautiful Initiative](#)

This week's Caribbean is Beautiful fact:

**Fact:** Rihanna was born in Saint Michael Parish, Barbados

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## Reminders:

### Front Office (Closed)

The Front Office and our buildings will be closed to the public (except for meals) **until further notice**. Please email the Front Office staff if you need anything.

FH- [t.sumner@wissahickoncharter.org](mailto:t.sumner@wissahickoncharter.org)

### Meals Distribution Mondays

Meals will continue to be distributed on **Mondays only from 8am-6pm**. Families will receive a meal kit for the week that includes hot entrees that can be reheated. Please continue to follow the Meal Pick up procedures as outlined outside the school.

### Absences Due to Tech Issues

Families, if you are experiencing tech issues (i.e. trouble logging in, lost internet connection, etc.) please be sure to communicate that tech issue **in the moment** to [helpis@wissahickoncharter.org](mailto:helpis@wissahickoncharter.org) to receive assistance and/or to have your child's attendance excused if needed. Copies of the emails sent to [helpis@wissahickoncharter.org](mailto:helpis@wissahickoncharter.org) will serve as proof of your child's attempted attendance on that day.

### Follow Wissahickon Charter on Social Media

Follow WCS on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) 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!

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## Important Dates

Monday 3/29-4/2 Spring Break School Closed



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