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Dear Fernhill Families,

We think of our emphasis on CARES values and our love of field trips as two features that make WCS so special. This was apparent in a huge way last week when the 7th & 8th graders visited the [Mutter Museum](#) in Center City. Without prompting, the staff of the museum shared with teachers how impressed they were with the seventh graders. They complimented students not only on their overall behavior, but more importantly on their genuine interest in the exhibits. Students came back from the trip with deep thoughts about biology AND creative ideas about the ways in which museums hook their visitors.

When a field trip comes around your child's way, please the return permission slip quickly, and let teachers know if you have any questions or thoughts. For some trips, families are invited to chaperone. Just remember that you need to submit your clearances to do so.

Here's to many more rich learning experiences in and outside of the classroom.

Ms. Rebecca Benarroch
Middle School Director

Here are our first graders using their 5 senses to observe the neighborhood around school!



General News & Announcements

Picture Day Update

Picture Day was good fun in the gym this year. You can send in forms and money for pictures till **Thursday of this week. Thursday is the deadline.** We will have a retake day, but it's not scheduled yet.

Late Pick-up Fee

Please be reminded that late pick up enforcement charge will be \$1 a minute starting at 3:45pm on regular dismissals and 1pm on early dismissals.

Wissahickon Parent Partnership Corner

- WPP Fernhill Fall Festival is THIS WEEKEND!!! Join us at Fernhill Park on *Saturday* from 2-4pm for kickball, pumpkin bowling and bingo. To learn more click [here](#) and come out to meet other families, have some laughs, and enjoy the beautiful Fall afternoon! This is a family event and parent involvement and supervision is required - no child drop off please.
- WPP is hosting a **Parent-School Dialogue Session** regarding the 2017-2018 policy changes, focusing on cell phone usage in the middle school and school uniforms. This will be an opportunity for parents to share their feelings, as well as for the Deans to share their decisions. The outcome of this meeting will not be a change in the current policy, rather a chance for a positive dialog. The forum will be at 6pm on *November 6th*. **You must RSVP** to attend this meeting. Please RSVP with the names attending to the WPP: wppfernhill@gmail.com
- WPP Fernhill Family Hikes are planned for the 2nd Saturday of each month. This will be a family friendly hike through the Wissahickon and we encourage all parents and kids to come out! We will meet at Blue Bell Meadow the morning on *November 11th*. Bring your water bottles and good shoes!
- Next WPP meeting is *November 14th* at 6pm in the library.

For Lower School

No lower school updates this week.

For Middle School

Important Message about "Playing"

While it is developmentally appropriate for middle schoolers to test physical limits as they get older, it is **not** acceptable for them to "play fight", "rough-house" or put their hands on each other during the school day. These moments can quickly turn from "playing" that's not that deep into one or more students taking it personally and seriously. Please talk with your child about this **non-negotiable expectation**. Middle schoolers are the student leaders of the building. They have the responsibility to set an excellent example for younger kids, and we know for sure they can.

8th Grade Events & Expectations

8th grade families, click [here](#) for the letter that is being shared with students and sent home for you today. Please read it carefully and review with your 8th grader.

October's Middle School Celebration

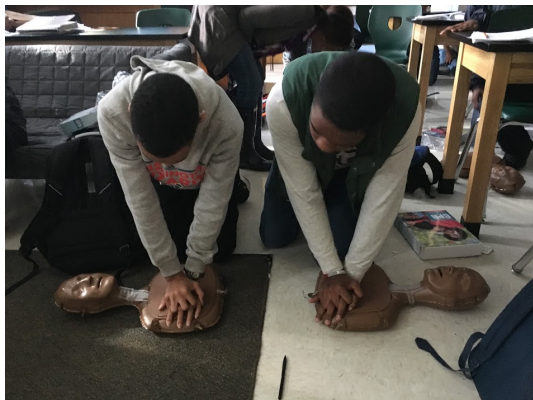
Stay tuned for an email tomorrow (Wednesday) letting you know if your child has earned the October celebration for having all Cs or better (no C-s), fewer than 3 teacher-led consequences, and no discipline referrals in October. We are working out the final details of this month's event! If your child qualifies & you signed the general permission slip in September, they will be able to join.

Teams & Sports

We have some great teams starting. The dance team began practices @ Fernhill on Saturday and had a

fantastic session. Cheerleading will start at Awbury soon. See below for dates. Basketball tryouts for girls (12-2) and boys (2-4) are on Tuesday & Wednesday, Nov 21 & 22. Wrestling info. to come.

7th & 8th graders practice chest compressions on CPR dummies thanks to a partnership with Drexel Medical School!



Important Dates

Thur, Nov 2nd & Fri, Nov 3rd - Middle school cheerleading clinic at Awbury, 4-6pm

Fri, Nov 3rd - Middle School special celebration for October (tentative)

Mon, Nov 6th-Wed, Nov 8th - 5th Horsham Outdoor School Trip

Mon, Nov 6th- Middle school cheerleading try-outs at Awbury, 4-6pm

Tues, Nov 7th - Kindergarten trip to Solley Farm

Fri, Nov 10th - School closed, Veterans Day



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