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Weekly Wissahickon 10/22/2021

1 message

Tonya Bailey <t.bailey@wissahickoncharter.org>
Reply-To: Tonya Bailey <t.bailey@wissahickoncharter.org>
To: awbury@wissahickoncharter.org

Fri, Oct 22, 2021 at 2:59 PM



Message from Dean Kristi

Dear Families,

As we're about halfway through our first trimester, I hope you and your child(ren) are settling into new school routines.

I have a couple of important things to share with you this week. Please read this in full.

Returning to School After Illness: When a student is out of school for more than one symptom reported on RUVNA, our Nurse will call to follow up and inform you that your child needs a Covid test in order to return to school. The test should be shared with the nurse who contacted you.

Possible SEPTA Strike: You have likely seen that SEPTA's union is prepared to strike if a new contract is not agreed upon by the end of this month. We know that all WCS 7th

and 8th graders take SEPTA. With the school bus driver shortages this year, many families of students in other grades are also opting for SEPTA. We also have many employees who rely on SEPTA. [The School District of Philadelphia is bracing for a shift to online learning if there is a strike.](#) Wissahickon is currently assessing how large of an impact a SEPTA strike would have on our community and making contingency plans.

Covid Cases at WCS: As a reminder, you can always check our website to see the total count of positive cases that have been in our building. It is updated every Friday at the end of the day. Go to Family Resources and click on the link for Positive Covid Cases. Any families whose children are directly impacted by a positive case are always contacted personally. Any families whose children are in a class where there was a positive case but whose children were not directly impacted are also alerted in writing.

Returning iPads and Chromebooks: Every family who received a device last year signed an agreement to pay for that device should they not return it or if they break it. If you still have a device at home, you need to send it to school immediately. We will soon be sending out invoices for any devices that were not returned or that came in broken.

Many thanks,
Kristi

Essentials: **Important Dates**

October 29th - Picture Day

Front Office Updates

- **Phones** - Please note that our front office staff assists with arrival and dismissal. If you call the office before 9:30 AM or after 2:30 PM, there is no guarantee staff will be able to answer your call. If your call is not answered, please leave a message.
- **Arrival** - We are asking any parents who walk their child up to not park on the school side of Washington Lane, so there can be a constantly flowing line of traffic coming into the driveway from the parking lane. This will increase safety and speed of drop off. Thanks!
- **Masks** - We are spending thousands of dollars on student masks. Please make sure your child has one on when they get to school and has a spare in their backpack. If parents are able, please send in boxes of masks to support us! The disposable adult and child masks are perfect.

Flat Rate Program Payment

Many of our families that have enrolled in the flat rate program have not received a confirmation email. Please complete the Parent Payment form found [HERE](#). Please note you must complete this form **each month**. The school must also complete a payment form each month. The school payment form will be submitted by the 8th of each month. The school payment forms for September and October will be submitted by November 8, 2021. Please refer to the FAQs document found [HERE](#) for more information. All question should be emailed to [Ms. Shonda](#).

WCS Residency Questionnaire

WCS is sending a Residency Questionnaire to all families to better serve families who qualify as McKinney-Vento. The McKinney-Vento Act provides services and supports for children and youth experiencing homelessness. You can find more information on pages 75 & 76 of your WCS Student Handbooks. This will be included in your Title I paperwork being sent home. You can also complete the form electronically [HERE](#). You only need to complete ONE form per family.

Student Cell-Phone Monitoring From Ms. G Director of Culture

We know it's not the easiest job managing your child's phone with all the responsibilities on your plate. As we support students in school to make safe choices with their cell-phones when it comes to surfing the web, group chatting and joining social media platforms we know they are susceptible to increased drama with friends and peers, predators and an array of distractions from school and family time. Some families have found success with apps that allow them to mirror their child's phone, seeing who and what their texting. Features that include controlling how much time they are on their phone, filtering websites, and monitoring content.

1. [Bark](#) is one of the most popular family apps.
2. If your family all have iphones, apple has a family sharing app that does the has the same features as bark.
3. Verizon also has a smart family feature for \$5.00 a month add on where you can also mirror and monitor your family's phone.

If you know of any other useful apps we can share with families that will help keep our students safe please share with me directly golphin@wissahickoncharter.org

October's Lunch Menu

[Click here](#)

On Radar

K-8 Interim Reports

Please check the mail for your child(rens) interim report.

Picture Day October 29th!

School Picture Day is **Friday, October 29, 2021**. Picture forms were given to students on Thursday and Friday of this week. Please check your child's folder or book bag.

After School Program

We are still accepting students from grades K-5th in our After School Program. If you are interested or need more information please click [here](#) to get started! Thank you!

2022-2023 Applications Now Available

The 2022-2023 application cycle opened on September 24. As a reminder, families must apply to Wissahickon through the Apply Philly Charter system at applyphillycharter.com or by calling 1 (800) 891-3999. Applications must be received by January 24, 2022 in order to be included in our lottery. As a reminder, WCS has sibling preference for applicants. A sibling is defined as a biological or legally adopted brother or sister who lives in the same household as the current WCS student. In the event the parent or legal guardian of a current student becomes the legal guardian of another child, sibling preference shall convey to that child. Applicants must also be Philadelphia residents in order to qualify for preference.

EXTRAS:

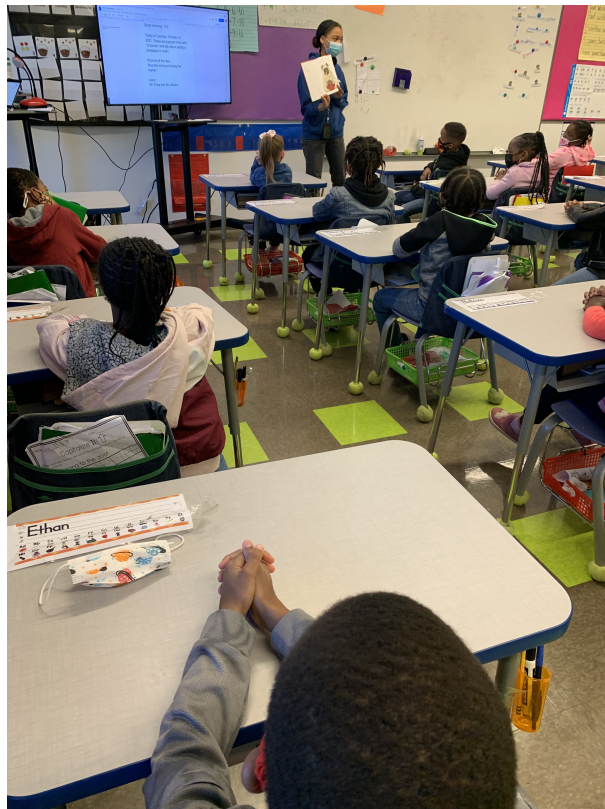
In art, 3rd grade made Jazz Collages based on the work of Romare Bearden



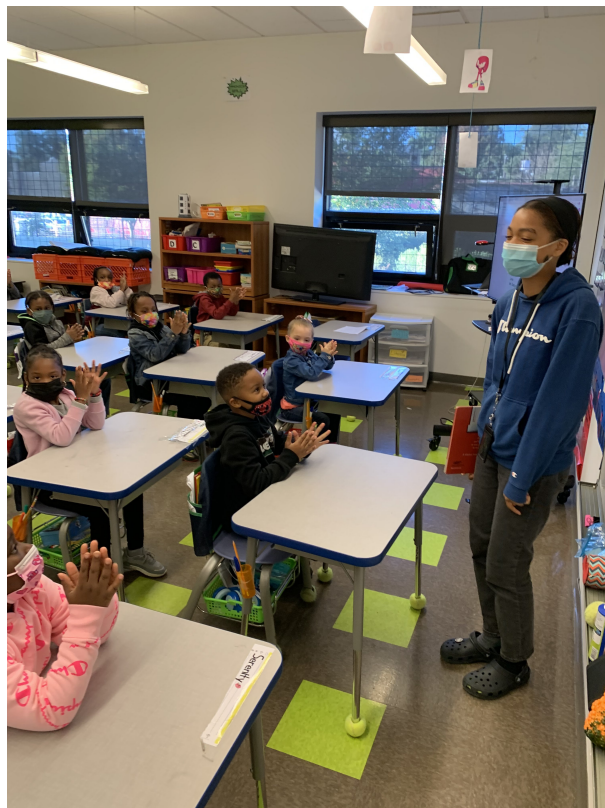
7th grade carved Adinkra symbols into stamps, printed fabric, and sewed pillows



8th grader, Kayla Nasir, does read aloud to 1st grade at her own initiative!



112 enthralled in the read aloud



And the crowd goes wild!



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