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Weekly Wissahickon 3-25-2022

1 message

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

Fri, Mar 25, 2022 at 4:14 PM

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Reminder: School Closed on Friday, April 1, 2022 for Professional Development

Message From Assistant Principal

Dear Families,

This week, Ms. Rebecca and I held two Family Town Halls so that we could hear from families about their vision for culture at WCS as we slowly begin to emerge from pandemic restrictions.

We are so grateful for the almost 40 families that came and contributed to what we felt were very insightful and productive meetings.

If you weren't able to attend, some of the themes that emerged were:

- Families very much miss being able to be in the school building, both as volunteers and to visit for school events. This has led to a feeling of disconnectedness. We are talking and working on end of school year events that meet current safety guidelines and also get us together in person! The WPP is hosting after-school BYOS (Bring Your Own Snack) events across the street in Fernhill Park starting next week!
- Teaching children about safe and responsible Internet use should be a joint effort between families and schools. We agree! We already do some of this type of teaching in our Typing & Technology course for 3rd-8th graders, and will revisit to be sure it supports students as much as possible in these times.
- It is crucial that children's social media use is monitored by their caregivers at home. Many families had some great tips. We are brainstorming how to connect families so that these tips can be shared.
- Families MUST hold their students accountable to consequences assigned by the school. We will work here at school on how to communicate more clearly about our behavior systems (like CARES cards and situations when a student might be assigned make-up time).

We must also give a big thank you to Christina Holley and the WPP for suggesting bringing families in more frequently as partners in this way. It has been a long couple years, and we are excited to return to a new normal with families as partners and collaborators.

Have a great weekend,
Ms. Lauren Bennett
Assistant Principal

Essentials

Message From Covid Coordinator

Vaccine Clinic at Fernhill Campus Friday, April 1st - FREE and open to ALL. [Sign-up now!](#)
Masks will be required for the week we return from Spring Break. Free N-95 masks are available by searching [here](#).

Ticketing HAS STARTED for Parking/Stopping Between Crosswalks

Police have started ticketing cars that stop or park between the crosswalks on both sides of the street. Please do not stop or park in this area to avoid receiving a ticket.

Come gather with your child's cohort and the WPP!

The WPP is organizing grade-level playdates so that students and families can get together outside of school hours and get to know one another. The event is BYOS (bring your own snack).

All playdates are in Fernhill Park from 3:30-4:30.

We still need a parent point person for grades 2, 5, and 7.
Email Christina Holley at wpp@wissahickoncharter.org if interested!!

Dates of Playdates:

March 28 - Kindergarten
March 29 - 1st Grade
March 30 - 2nd Grade
March 31 - 3rd Grade
April 4 - 4th Grade
April 5 - 5th Grade
April 6 - 6th Grade
April 7 - 7th Grade

PSSA Information

The PSSAs begin the week of April 26th for students in grades 3-8. The testing windows are as follows:

- April 26-28: English Language Arts
- May 4-5: Mathematics
- May 10 and 12: Science (Grades 4 and 8 only)
- May 9-13: Makeups as needed

Some parents have expressed interest in having their children "opt out" of the PSSAs due to religious beliefs. While a family can opt a child out at any point, we are requesting this year that you provide us with notice prior to Spring Break (by Friday, March 25) so that we can make adequate preparations for how they will spend testing time.

If you have any questions or would like more information about the opt out process, please contact Paul Vande Stouwe, Assessment and Accountability Manager at p.vandestouwe@wissahickoncharter.org.

On Radar

Middle School Families:

If your student is at least 12 years old and looking for a Summer Job/Enrichment Program, the WorkReady Summer Program is now accepting applications for 2022. This is a great opportunity for student to earn money and explore things they might be interested in. THE FIRST 5,000 APPLICANTS TO COMPLETE THE ENROLLMENT PROCESS (STEPS 1 AND 2) WILL RECEIVE \$150! Check out their website below for more information and contact Ms. Aitiya (a.hobson@wissahickoncharter.org) or Ms. Meskun (L.meskun@wissahickoncharter.org) for questions or support.
<https://www.workready.org/summer/>



La Salle university's Summer STEM Enrichment Camp is back! The camp will run between July 5th - July 22nd from 8am - 4pm at La Salle University. The tuition will be \$450 per student. Please find the registration form [here](#).

Reminders

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! You can also follow WPP (Wissahickon Parent Partnership) on [Instagram](#).

Important Dates

Mon, Mar 28 - K Family BYOS (Bring Your Own Snack) @ 3:30

Tues, Mar 29 - 1st grade Family BYOS; Staff meeting: All staff

Wed, Mar 30 - LS Honors Breakfast; 2nd Family BYOS
Thurs, Mar 31 - MS Honors Breakfast; 3rd Family BYOS
Fri, April 1 - PD Day; Staff Only (schedule next week); Vaccine clinic @ FH



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