



Hruska, Kristy <k.hruska@wissahickoncharter.org>

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## Weekly Wissahickon 10-14-2022

1 message

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**WCS-Fernhill** <fh.frontoffice@wissahickoncharter.org>  
Reply-To: WCS-Fernhill <fh.frontoffice@wissahickoncharter.org>  
To: k.hruska@wissahickoncharter.org

Fri, Oct 14, 2022 at 3:30 PM

[View this email in your browser](#)



**Wissahickon**  
**CHARTER SCHOOL**

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### Message From CEO

Dear Families,

I want to thank the families who made gifts to our Annual Fund this past week. When I asked parents Stacy and Seth DuBois what inspired them to give, they said,

*Our son is always happy to go to school and full of smiles when we pick him up. I know that is because of the exemplary teaching and community feel of WCS. Staff have helped to boost his confidence in learning and I am so thankful. If my contribution helps WCS to continue caring for students and helping them succeed, I will gladly give my support.*

Thank you to the DuBois family! I hope their gift will inspire other gifts to support the special programs we offer. I'd like to ask you again to [consider making a gift to Wissahickon Charter School](#). Any family who makes a gift of \$25 or more will be entered into a drawing in December for a Wissahickon Swag Basket. Thank you!

I also wanted to share an opportunity! One of our alumni families was recently involved in the production of a documentary called The Smell of Money that focuses on environmental racism and the pork industry in North Carolina. They introduced me to the film's Director and we've been discussing how to share this important work with the WCS community. I wanted to share that the film is now part of the Philadelphia Film Festival and will be shown on Sun. Oct. 23rd (2:30 PM) and Mon. Oct. 24 (4:15 PM). FREE tickets and more info can be found here: <https://filmadelphia.org/events/pff31-the-smell-of-money/>.

Peace,  
Kristi

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### Essentials

#### Wissahickon in the Wissahickon has moved to the FALL!

Wissahickon in the Wissahickon is an all day **Whole School** field trip to Bluebell Park Meadow/Trails. It is a time to build our community and really get to know our neighborhood and the beautiful Wissahickon that is our backyard. Your children will partner with younger or older grades to build our community connection and enjoy hiking, fall fun, snacks and activities. Because of the size of this event, **every child will attend**, unless you choose to opt out your child. If you choose to opt out your child for this field trip, we are requesting that you provide us with notice by Monday, 10/24/22. Please let their homeroom teacher know.

*If you would like to volunteer to help, we would love 10 parent volunteers, first come first*

served, please note the clearance requirements. ( Please contact Kourtney at [kourtneyg@wissahickoncharter.org](mailto:kourtneyg@wissahickoncharter.org) if you are interested in volunteering or if you need more information.)

Mark your calendars: Friday, October 28, 2022, from 9-2 (that includes travel time)  
Grades 4-8 will walk there and back.

\*\*\*\*\*Each child should bring a bagged lunch and a water bottle.\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*If your child has a need for an inhaler or any other medication, make sure that it is given to the nurse prior to 10/28/22\*\*\*

### Flat Rate Program

The enrollment period for the flat rate program has ended. If you would like to enroll, please contact Ms. O at [a.oliphant@wissahickoncharter.org](mailto:a.oliphant@wissahickoncharter.org). To receive your payment, the [parent payment form](#) should be completed on the last day of the month. This form can also be found on the Philadelphia School District website. Please call 215-400-4350 with any questions regarding your monthly payment.

### Picture Day

Picture Day is Monday, October 31, 2022. The order forms are being sent home with students today. You may also order pictures online at [www.barksdalephoto.com](http://www.barksdalephoto.com). The online password is 17591IN.

### Recess & After-school Clubs & Extracurriculars Starting Monday, October 24, 2022

Here is a link to the [Club and Extracurricular calendar](#). Here you will find all of the current recess and after school activity offerings. After-school activities require a family member to sign the student up. More activities will be added throughout the year as they become ready to roll out, including organized sports. For all questions please reach out to Coach B. ([r.berman@wissahickoncharter.org](mailto:r.berman@wissahickoncharter.org))

### 5th-8th Grade Families

Wissahickon families, we are extending the time allowed to buy insurance for your student's device. (5th-8th Grade) (Deadline, October 31st). While it's not required, we strongly encourage all families with Chromebooks to participate in the insurance program. The cost for device Insurance through WCS is \$27/device.

The device Insurance you purchased covers the following;

- Damage caused by accidental drops and spills
- Accidental water damage
- Loss/Theft

There are no deductible costs for families associated with qualified repairs. Families are entitled to a total of THREE (3) accidental damage claims per school year for each insured device. Manufacturer defects and hardware failures are covered by the device manufacturer.

The insurance does NOT cover the following

- Damage caused intentionally or through extreme neglect.
- Any device that indicates an attempt to remove or removal of the labels or tamper-proof stickers.
- Any device that was not issued to the student.

\*When a WCS-issued device needs repair, your student can bring it to the building they attend. Students will be issued a temporary loaner device if one is available that will remain at school until which time their originally issued chrome book is repaired and returned. Please allow 10-15 days for repairs. Depending on the type of repair that's needed and the availability of parts some repairs can take up to 4 weeks or longer. Once the repair is complete your student will be contacted to return the loaner device and receive their original device back. For students/families that do NOT invest in this insurance program, in the event of accidental damage, Chromebook repair costs will be added to the student account and families will be notified. Families that do NOT participate in the insurance program that has a damaged Chromebook will NOT be able to participate in the insurance program until the damaged Chromebook is repaired. For reference, the most common damage to a device that needs repair is the screen. Repair costs for a screen replacement (when not covered by insurance) average \$80. Other, less common, repairs range from \$100 to full device replacement at \$260. Determination of whether the damage is considered "intentional" or due to "extreme neglect" will be made by a full-time staff member of the Technology Services Department.

Payment Information

[Fernhill Insurance](#)

[Awbury Insurance](#)

Please note the child(s) name when submitting payment to the school.

### Morning Drop-off Begins at 8am (not earlier)

There is no official supervision for students before 8am. See the [entire arrival procedures](#) here for specific details.

### Lost & Found

We currently have a very full lost and found! Please check for your lost items, as everything will be

donated at the end of the month. The best way to ensure lost items get found is by labeling them.

**Interested in chaperoning for upcoming field trips or volunteering for school events?**

Turn in your volunteer clearances ASAP! All information can be found in the Family Resources tab under Forms. [Here is a direct link for easy access.](#) Please follow ALL directions for submission in order for us to keep accurate records.

**Attention 8th Grade Families from Your School Counselors:**

Families and students are encouraged to attend the 2022 Philly High School Fair on October 14th or October 15th. This is a free event. If you have a transportation hardship, let your counselor know. Link to reserve tickets [HERE](#)

High school applications for the School District of Philadelphia opened on September 16, 2022. We began our mandatory high school advising meetings. If you have not already done so, Please use the [MyConference Link](#) to schedule a meeting with your child's counselor here at Fernhill. Student last names starting with A-L will schedule with Mrs. Aitiya and last names M-Z will schedule with Mrs. Meskun. These meetings will happen in person at our school. Masking and COVID Guidelines in place as per any new/updated WSC policies. Students and parents are expected to attend the meeting together. Please sign up for a time that works for you.

Please do not complete this application alone. Completing the application with your counselor assures that it is done correctly and any required documentation is submitted. Remember to have at least 5 district schools picked prior to your scheduled conference in order to complete the application. Do not include Charter Schools or Private Schools for this meeting. Please see [THIS](#) document for some examples of the types of High Schools or visit [www.greatphillyschools.org](http://www.greatphillyschools.org) to research different high schools in Philadelphia. Please email Mrs. Aitiya at [a.hobson@wissahickoncharter.org](mailto:a.hobson@wissahickoncharter.org) or Mrs. Meskun at [l.meskun@wissahickoncharter.org](mailto:l.meskun@wissahickoncharter.org) with any questions or concerns.



**Kindergarten had a blast Apple Pressing!**

**On Radar**

**Lots of fun trips happening for 6th-8th graders next week!**

8th grade goes on their backpacking trip all week. We hope you have fun!

6th grade has an Insight Day with Outward Bound on Thursday, October 20th. 7th grade goes on Friday, October 21st. Make sure your trip slip is in!



### Tune Up Philly: Kroc Center Location

[Tune Up program](#) site at the Kroc Center is now enrolling. Students receive scholarships to attend and borrow an instrument, with performances at Temple and Kimmel Center this season. Here is a [flyer link](#).

### After School Program Openings

There are still spots available in the after school program for students in 2nd-5th grade! After school runs daily from dismissal until 6pm. Fill out a registration form [here](#) and please feel free to reach out to Andrea Hegedus, the Recess & ASP Coordinator, at [a.hegedus@wissahickoncharter.org](mailto:a.hegedus@wissahickoncharter.org) with any questions.

### School Lunch

All enrolled students of Wissahickon Charter School are eligible to receive a nutritional breakfast and lunch each school day at no charge to your household. No further action is required of you.

Please see the link to check out our [menu](#).



Homeroom Buddies got to meet today!

## Reminders

### Open Enrollment @ WCS for 2022-23 SY

If you already have a child in our school and are interested in applying for a sibling, you will need to apply using Apply Philly Charter. The application is open from Friday, September 23rd and will close on Monday, January 23, 2023. Click [here](#) to apply.

### School Calendar

As a reminder, our school calendar for the 22/23 school year is [here](#). Please plan accordingly.

### WCS Swag

You can now order WCS swag from our New Fernhill School Store using this [link](#) from our website under parent payments. Each order you make \$10 is donated back to the school for school community events.

### Has your address, phone number or email address changed?

Please inform the Front Office of ALL changes to your student's demographics.

**Reminder:** In order to change your address, you must submit (2) proofs of residency in addition to the change of address form.

### 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](#).

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## Important Dates

Saturday, October 15th: Philly High School Fair

Monday, October 17-Friday, October 21: 8th Grade Outward Bound Backpacking Trip

Thursday, October 20th: 6th Trip to Outward Bound

Friday, October 21st: 7th Trip to Outward Bound

Friday, October 28th: Wissahickon in the Wissahickon (W

Monday, October 31st: School Picture Day

Tuesday, November 8th: School Closed for Professional Development

Friday, November 11th: School Closed for Veterans Day

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