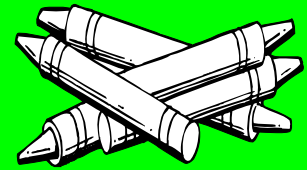


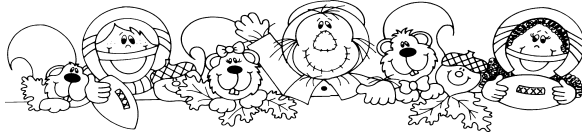
Walnut Creek Private School
NEWSLETTER
September/October 2009



**DIRECTOR'S
CORNER**

W e l c o m e
and Blessings
from the Administrators at
WCPS. Our school year is off to a
GREAT start ... The children are into
their daily routines and are learning
so much, so quickly! Field trips are
being planned and taken ... Fall is in the air!
It is a beautiful time of the year. We look
forward to a **WONDERFUL** school year
with your children.

Connie Carson & LaDonna Morgan
WCPS Administrators



**Cold and Flu Season
is upon us.
Please keep ill children home.**

PICK-UP & DROP-OFF UPDATE

Thank you for your
patience during the first
few weeks' adjustments
and readjustments of
our pick-up and drop-
off procedures.



Parents need to pull
close to the car in front
of you so more cars can get into the parking
lots. Be sure to put your colored card with
your child's name in the front window
(or attach it to your visor) to help the teachers.

When dropping off in the mornings,
please walk your child to the classroom no
more than 5 minutes before class is to begin.
Be sure the teacher knows that your child is
there and that you sign him/her in before leaving.

Preschool parents please park in the lane
closest to the building when delivering
your student in the morning. Be sure to leave one
lane open for drive through at all times.

FALL HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

Fall Harvest parties are being scheduled
for the week of November 23. This combines the
October and Thanksgiving celebrations.

WCPS wants to focus on
something more representative
of our heritage and the fall
harvest season. Therefore, please
do not send children to school
wearing costumes.

Room Parents are being
selected for each class to plan a
party schedule for the entire year. All those
parents who are interested can participate by
supplying refreshments, napkins, cups, or favors



(no more than \$1.00 per child and **NO** balloons
for safety reasons).

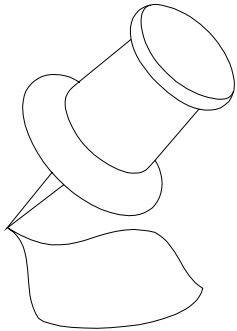
Please check with your class Room Parent
or teacher before sending items for parties so
everything can be coordinated.

Most Parties are held in the classroom,
unless otherwise approved through Program
Administrators. Parties need to be completed by
at least 15 minutes prior to dismissal time.

The parties are for the students and their
classmates and need to be kept simple and fun.
WCPS recommends that only two parents per
child attend each party and asks that siblings do
not attend.

FROM THE OFFICE

The following items are of great importance! Please read them carefully and it will help make a great 2009-2010 school year.



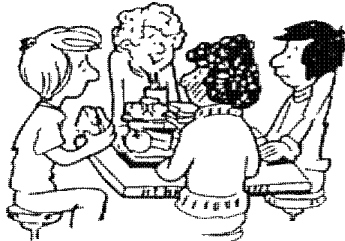
1. **Billing statements** will be mailed to each student's home throughout the year. The payment may be placed in one of the locked metal **Payment Boxes** on campus.

If you pay with cash and would like a receipt or have questions concerning your statement, please come to the Business Office. A weekly receipt for Odyssey payments will be printed for you upon request.

2. If you need to take your child out of school early or bring them late due to an appointment, you will need to sign in and out through the Business Office.

3. For the safety of our students, we ask that all visitors on campus check in at the office and wear visitor tags.

4. Please send a drink with **your child's lunch**. Do not send a carbonated drink in a thermos. It will explode! Please put soups and casseroles in a thermos so they will remain hot.



BOOK CLUB ORDERS

Book Club Order sheets need to be turned in to your child's teacher - not the office -

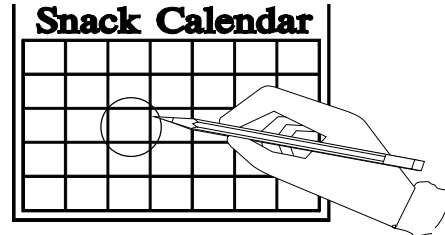
by the return date on the sheet.

Please attach a check to each order form made out to that Book Club (Scholastic, Troll, etc.)

Thank you.

5. All students in Kindergarten through 4th Grade need to bring a backpack to school each day.

6. Please remember to send the same number of **5 ounce dixie cups and napkins** as the number of snacks requested on your child's class snack calendar.



7. **Snack Calendars** will go home the last week of each month. Please send snacks on the appropriate day. Remember to check the bottom of the Snack Calendars each month for counts of snacks, cups, and napkins to bring - *these change from month to month*.

Snacks need to be brought to the Workroom in the Odyssey Hall for Odyssey classes; to the Preschool Workroom (in the South Building) for Preschool, and Pre-K classes; to the Gym for Kindergarten Classes. If your child comes to Extended Care before 8:25 a.m., you may leave your snacks in the Extended Care Room and we will move them to the proper place.

Therefore, it is essential that you label the snacks with your child's name and teacher's name to ensure proper distribution of your snack.

8. If you have a special skill, profession, or hobby you would be willing to share with a group of children, please let your child's teacher know what it is. We'd like to have you visit and share.

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE:

9-Month Tuition is due on the 1st of each month.

A Late Charge of \$30 is applied on the 6th of the month.

Odyssey Tuition is due on Monday and late after Tuesday. A Late Charge of \$15.00 is applied Tuesday after 6 p.m.

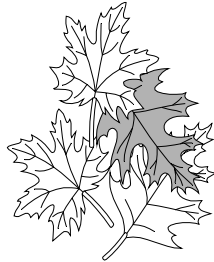
WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE CLASSROOM

EARLY CHILDHOOD NEWS

Wow, the first month of school has flown by so fast!

The children are busy learning routines and meeting lots of new friends. And they are adjusting very well to their "new teachers."

Mrs. Morse and Mrs. Jones are very busy with the ABeka curriculum, counting games, and great art projects. We are so blessed to have the privilege of sharing your child's life.



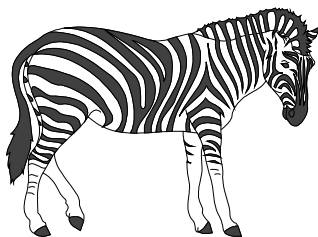
The three year old classes are adjusting to their new friends and learning about glue (Ugh!), scissors (Wow!), and recess (Y e a h !) .

Moms are making the adjustments - you don't cry as much anymore (Yeah for you!!) We have a few openings left if you have any interested friends.

ODYSSEY NEWS

Odyssey classes have been VERY busy kicking off their ABeka Curriculum!

Along with starting Music classes, Odyssey Orange and Blue, students have been practicing their handwriting. They are learning the difference between vowels and consonants and the vowel sounds. From Music Class to the Playground, these classes are singing their way through the halls. Stop and listen next time you're close by!



Odyssey Pink, Green, and Red

W.C.P.S. EXTENSIONS

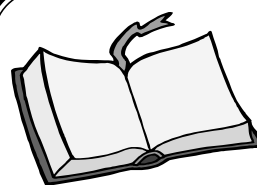
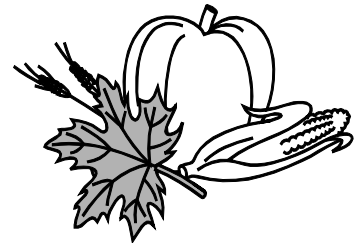
K & Primary, LaDonna Morgan x15
Odyssey, Connie Carson x14
Preschool, Jackie Rines x22
Business Office, Micah Lewis x10
Preschool Extended Care x22
After 6:00 Odyssey Orange x16

classes will concentrate on the theme of self awareness, autumn, and pumpkins while watching the seasons change. As classtime routines settle down these children are beginning to work on their numbers and learning the letters "A" through "E". We're also really enjoying music classes.



Thanks to all the parents who are supporting the Odyssey Stretch-N-Grow program. It's not too late to enroll your child. Classes are held on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons from 2 to 4:00 p.m. The students are really enjoying all the activities that they are doing in the program.

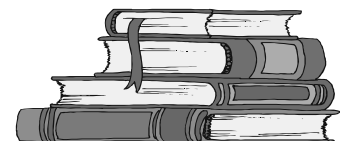
Next we'll start planning our Fall Harvest Celebrations that will be in November. Also be looking for School Pictures return and information about Holiday Picture Days to come home soon.



Scholastic Book Fair

IN THE GALLERY
MONDAY - FRIDAY,
OCTOBER 26th - 30th

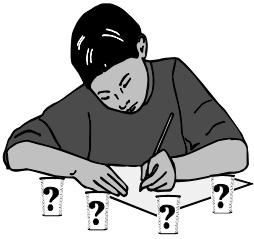
Be Sure To
Come Shop!



KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Kindergarten is so-o-o-o much fun!

We began by learning behaviors of Kindergarten and read the stories The Kissing Hand and A Pocket Full of Kisses.



We each made an "All About Me" poster during our first unit of study so we could get to know a lot about all our new friends.

Now we are learning to identify short vowel sounds in words.

October studies include units on autumn, pumpkins, and bats.

And we're looking forward to a visit from the petting zoo on October 8th and 9th.

FIRST GRADE NEWS

First Grade is off to a wonderful start! We plunged head first into our ABeka Curriculum. It's amazing what great readers we are already!



And, our cursive handwriting is looking fantastic!

This month we are learning about the legend of Johnny Appleseed as well as the life cycle of an apple tree. We will be making delicious applesauce and play a dunking game. We will also make our annual trip to the Apple Orchard.

We love reading poetry and we are already becoming great writers. In Math we will be working with manipulatives and other hands-on materials from our Math curriculum.

In October we will study Columbus and the Fall Harvest season. We will present our Story Book Character book reports. Happy Fall!

SECOND GRADE NEWS

Second Grade is off to a wonderful start! We are so blessed to have 2 Second Grade classes this year. Mrs. Blank (from Fifth Grade last year) has joined Mrs. Rains as a Second Grade teacher

this year. Mrs. Blank is teaching the Language Arts classes, while Mrs. Rains is teaching the Math, Science, and Social Studies classes. The students seem to be benefiting and enjoying having two teachers this year.

After the first week of getting to know one another and doing some informal testing, we are now off and running with our curriculum. Mrs. Blank is working on building reading fluency in reading groups, as well as teaching long and short vowel sound rules and beginning special sounds in phonics. Students are also learning to identify a complete sentence and to remember to start it with a capital letter and end it with the correct punctuation mark.

In Math, Mrs. Rains has everyone memorizing their addition and subtraction facts by making daily flashcards to be used at home. The students have also learned how to add and subtract using a method called Touchmath where students touch the numbers they're

adding or subtracting in order to find the answer. This is much faster than using our fingers.

In Social Studies we're learning where in the world we are. We've learned we live on planet Earth; in the northern and western hemispheres; on the continent of North America; in the country of the United States; in the state of Texas; and most of us live in the city of Mansfield.

As you see, we're already busy bees in Second Grade. And the learning continues next month as we continue improving our reading fluency and begin more comprehension practice. In Math we'll move from just simple addition and subtraction facts into 2-digit and 3-digit addition and subtraction with carrying and borrowing, as well as practice how to count money.

We'll move from Social Studies into our first Science unit on weather. This along with reading the book "Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs" in Language Arts will prepare us for our first field trip to see the new movie based on this awesome children's book. When we return, we will be comparing and contrasting how the book is alike and different from the movie. Parents, look for more information to be sent home soon.

Second graders will be busy, but having fun during these first months of school!



THIRD GRADE NEWS

Third Grade is off to a great start! We have spent the first couple of weeks reviewing subtraction, addition, roman numerals and we have been working on our times tables up to 5's.



In Language Arts, we have been going over the 9 rules of capitalization as well as the comma and period rules.

In Science, we have been studying all about plants. We have learned about the needs of plants, plant parts, and plant cells! We have dissected a flower to identify flower parts and their functions.

Test us on our states and capitols --- we are getting GOOD!

Coming up soon, we are planning a fun field trip to explore more about plants at the Dallas Arboretum.

FOURTH GRADE NEWS

What a great start to Fourth Grade!

We have spent time reviewing addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.

In Language we started the year off working with sentences. We learned the four types of sentences and how to punctuate them. We already started our first Literature Unit on The Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing.



We are learning about living things in science. We learned the parts of cells and how plants reproduce.

Keep practicing multiplication facts as we get into new math!



Monday, October 12
Columbus Day
Holiday
For 9-Month Classes
ONLY



CHAPEL & BIBLE NEWS

KINDERGARTEN

In the first week of our Chapel time, we talked about the Holy Bible. We discussed that the Bible is given to us by God to help us make better choices, much like our parents give us rules to keep us safe and help us make better choices.

Our first lessons are on Creation, Day 1 through Day 7. We are creating a booklet from our artwork - we will also add to our Creation Song, one "day" each week.

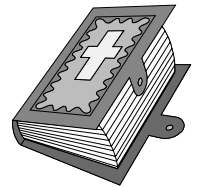
Thank you for sharing your child/ren with WCPS.

Mrs. Morgan

PRESCHOOL & ODYSSEY

Chapel is off to a great start!

The classes meet once a week to learn about God. So far, we have talked about what church and the Bible are.



In October we will study the life of Jesus.

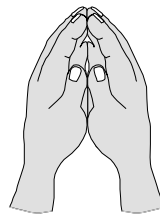
Your children will be bringing home Chapel Bulletins on a regular basis. This is a way for them to share with you what they are learning each week. Please take the time to do the activities with your child when they bring the bulletins home.

God Bless, *Mrs. Carson & Mrs. Lewis*

PRIMARY BIBLE

Bible Classes are off to a great start!

In First Grade we have learned some of the ways Jesus grew up, just as we are. We made picture frames to remind us! We've also enjoyed singing about Jesus together!



In Second Grade we've begun our study of creation and God's most valuable creation - us! Soon we'll have beautiful creation pictures displayed in the Primary Lunch / Extended Care Rooms. We will study our way through the entire book of Genesis this year.

In Third Grade, we are learning about the Bible as a whole: who write it, how it is arranged, how to find a verse, etc. Then we will go back to Egypt and pick up where we left off last May - about to exit Egypt!

Fourth Grade will pick up where we left off last year - entering the Promised Land. God will continue doing miracles for Israel to show them He is in control. We'll read about God parting the Jordan River (at flood stage!) and causing the walls of Jericho to fall.

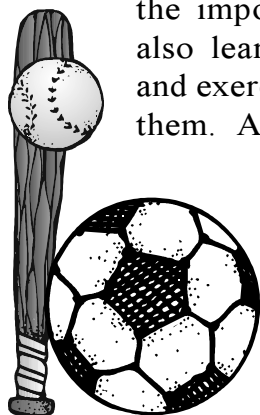
I look forward to a great year!

Mrs. Dixon

PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS

Welcome back everyone!

This month we are learning about the importance of exercise. We are also learning about the arm muscle and exercises we can do to strengthen them. Also, how strengthening our muscles can help with the after school activities we love -- like baseball, karate, and gymnastics.



The Kindergarten group will be learning about following directions, space awareness and how they are both important for safety. We are looking forward to a great year! *Mrs. Parks*

LIFE SKILLS NEWS

I am so excited about this addition to our enrichment activities! This month we will learn what manners are and why they are important; about respecting others and ourselves; what to do when you meet new people; and proper handshakes. I am looking forward to this year and our class discussions. *Mrs. Parks*

EXTENDED CARE

KINDERGARTEN

Hello and welcome to Kindergarten Extended Care! We are so happy to get the school year started.

In Extended Care we have a lot of fun, such as really awesome art projects, and tons of fun games and activities.



We will have Movie Day every Thursday and, if you choose to send a dollar with your child, they will be able to go get a special snack, such as a candy bar, chips, etc. and a soda or water. We will watch "G" and "PG" movies which will be posted by Wednesday of each week.

A daily schedule is printed here and a weekly schedule will be posted each week as well, so you will know what we are up to.

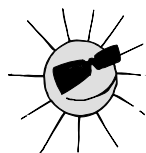
Thank you for sharing your child with us -- it is going to be a wonderful year!

God Bless, *Ms. Chelsea and Ms. Vinson*

PRIMARY

1st-4th Grade Extended Care has settled into our daily schedule. Our activities will include Arts & Crafts, Board Games, Character Education, Color Sheets, Computer Time, Creative Snack, Homework, Movies, Music & Movement, Reading / Story Time, Recreation, and some educational activities. We go outside at 2:45 and 4:30 weather permitting.

Ms. Hope is helping our students with homework. As soon as the students come to Extended Care we ask who has homework and have them place their bags in the homework room, 142. If you **do not** want your child doing homework at Extended Care, please let us know. Since Ms. Hope will be helping many children, please take time each night to be sure your child's work is completed.



If you have any questions or concerns, please let Mrs. Bunny know immediately so that we can address the situation as soon as possible.

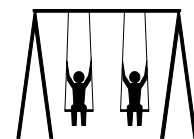
We are looking forward to a wonderful school year with you and your children.

Mrs. Bunny and Ms. Hope

PRESCHOOL

Extended Care for Preschool children is located in Mrs. Morse' Room with Mrs. Leslie. We eat lunch then have a rest time. When we get up, the children go to centers, eat snack and go outside to play.

Remember the hours begin at 8:00 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m. If you are late to pick up your child, we will take them to an Odyssey class for you. See Jackie Rines with any questions.



Kindergarten Extended Care Daily Schedule

- 2:00 Pick up students at back door , escort them to Middle Building, hang up belongings
- 2:15 Split up into groups for centers, play dough and reading
- 3:00 Merge back together for Art Time
- 3:45 Snack (School Provides)
- 4:15 Table toys, play dough, water color, drawing and color sheets
- 4:30 Recess (weather permitting)
- 5:00 Merge with Primary either on playground or in rooms #141 or #142
- 6:00 Merge with Odyssey Orange