



**Wheeler Avenue
Christian Academy (WACA)**
An Accredited School

3810 Ruth Street
Houston, TX 77004
713-579-2792 (office)
Ms. Melanie E Singleton, Head of Schools

Friday, October 7, 2016

WACA PARENT & FAMILY MEMO

Greetings WACA Parents and Families-

"Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.'"

Matthew 19:14 *New International Version*

Special shout-out to our Parent Teacher Fellowship for starting the year off with a spectacular event! If you missed last night's **Literacy Night** you missed a ton of fun! Because of the upcoming president election, our **Fall Literacy Night** focused on all election-themed books and the power of the voting ballot. PTF sponsored a raffle for books, a wonderfully catered hot meal and volunteers from the Women's Guild came and read several different stories to over 50 students and families. After hearing several readings, students and parents were able to vote on their favorite book. Although the votes are still being counted, the book that wins the elections will be sent home to each child who attended! Nights like last night made me proud about the academic and family-oriented environment we are building here at WACA. Nights like last night make memories for our families and makes WACA the premiere school of Houston. Be on the lookout for our **Spring Literacy Night**. You will not want to miss it!

-Ms. Singleton

Hispanic Heritage Month

In commemoration of Hispanic Heritage month, we will have a school-wide afternoon celebration this Friday, October 14th. Each class is learning about and representing a different country from Central or South America. It will be a festive occasion replete with food, flags, banners, and accessories from the different Spanish-speaking country. The festivities will commence from 3:00-3:30PM. To ensure all students can participate, we are asking for parents to begin picking up after 3:30PM. If you would like to donate any items to your class, the breakdown of the participating countries is below:

Infants	Toddler I	Toddler II	Pre-K2	Pre-K3	Pre-K4	Kindergarten	1 st /2 nd Grade
Venezuela	Belize	Mexico	Guatemala	Colombia	Argentina	Honduras	Costa Rica

After Hours Childcare/Late Fees

Effective October 17th, we will begin to enforce our late fees policy. As many of you know, WACA is opened from 6:30AM to 6:00PM each day. We have extended our school hours to provide a convenience and consistent care to your child. In order to do this, we hire additional staff to be present each day. When parents arrive after 6:00PM, we have to continue paying personnel after hours. If you will pick up your child late, we ask that you call the office to notify us that you will need after hours childcare. For this convenience, there will be a \$5 charge at 6:01PM and \$1 for every minute after. We will provide you an invoice at the end of the week to let you know the cost or you can pay upon pickup or the following day. Thank you, in advance, for honoring our "after hours childcare" policy.

LAST CALL: Enrollment & Food Services Information

Thanks to each of you who have already submitted your necessary paperwork! Starting next week, we will begin calling home with daily reminders about missing paperwork. If you haven't done so already, please submit your enrollment and food forms today. The food forms will help us secure a food grant to hopefully cover all food expenses. To help your child receive the highest reimbursement, we are asking you to complete the food enrollment & income eligibility documents as well. You do not have to include the income for every adult in your household and you may choose to not enter income as well. Your income will

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not be verified in any way; the reporting is based on the honor system. If you have any questions about filling them out, please do not hesitate to contact the front office.

Fall Festival & Fall Field Trip

PTF is sponsoring our annual Fall Festival and they will need your help to make this event a success! The Fall Festival will be held Friday, October 21st from 12:00PM – 4:00PM. This Fall Festival is a particularly special one as it is also WHEELER AVENUE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY DAY! In 2008, the City of Houston made October 21st WACA DAY so we will definitely have to celebrate in grand style! On that day, children will be allowed to wear modest and “non-scary” costumes. Princesses, super heroes, and fall vegetables are all acceptable ideas. Because there will be many fun-filled activities like paint facing, art projects and the petting zoo, we are also asking that their costumes can be worn easily as they move around and play. If you would like to volunteer, please email wacaptf@gmail.com today with your name and your child’s name and a quick subject line of “I want to help”.

Our Fall Field Trip to the Oil Ranch in Hockley, TX is still tentatively set for October 25th. We were made aware of a transportation issue and are working to resolve it. We feel confident we will keep the date and will keep you informed once the date is finalized. Until then, cost for the field trip will be \$20 and include transportation, admission and a snow cone! Parents in Toddler I & II and Pre-K2 are asked to join us as a chaperone. The caravan for parents will leave at 8:45AM promptly. We will leave the Oil Ranch at 1:30PM for a no later than 3:00PM arrival back at WACA.

Academy Report Card & Field Trip [Kindergarten & 1st Grade/2nd Grade ONLY]

We are making a slight adjustment to last week’s October calendar. Report cards for the Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grade students in the Academy will go home October 28th. We have 4 (four) nine weeks cycle and the first one will end on October 21st. Between now and then, students are preparing for their assessments and can definitely use parent support at home. Students in Pre-K4 and below will continue receiving weekly and daily reports along with a summative report card at the end of this semester in December.

Students in the Academy will also be venturing to Main Street Theater to see a live performance of *Duck for President* on October 27, 2016. We are asking that you ensure all of our Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd graders are dressed nice, professionally and in full uniform. The field trip cost will be \$10 and is due no later than October 11th. If weather permits, students will also have lunch and a nature walk in Hermann Park before returning to school. If you have any questions about the trip, please email Ms. Hayden at thayden@wheelerbc.org.

Wheeler Avenue Canned Food Drive

Pastor Cosby laid down the charge last Sunday and WACA is ready to accept! Each year, Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church hosts an annual canned food drive and this year, WACA wants to raise the *largest amount of canned food donations*. To do so, we are going to need the help of our parents and families. Starting Monday, October 10th, please bring your canned vegetables or meat to donate to the neediest among us in Houston. To make giving fun for our students, we will also award the classroom that brings in the greatest amount of canned goods a pizza party at the end of the drive.

Melanie E. Singleton	Melissa Hamilton	WACA Staff and Family
Head of Schools	Director of Operations	

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