

March 05, 2021

Wicoff Elementary School

PTA

Another amazing "Masked Teacher" evening. Our fabulous teachers and students had a great time playing together! Many thanks to the event chair Ms. Emily Vorp.

2020-21 Wicoff Green Science Fair will be held on Saturday, March 13, 9-11 a.m.

The annual Green Science Fair allows participants to understand how every effort, even one made by an individual, can impact their community in a positive way. It allows students an opportunity to show how their project can help others adopt a more sustainable lifestyle. The Science Fair will be a virtual event using Zoom meetings.

- Participants: Students from grades 1 through 3
- Wicoff Green Science Fair Information, Instructions, Project Suggestions:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_3Gakzwx7Us5RZSlfABsEWGRnjmvHlr/view?usp=sharing
- **Registration: Register by Sunday, March 7, 2021 at 5 p.m.,**
<https://forms.gle/oHLBA2QkP79iiAtk6>
- For questions, email the Science Fair Committee:
wicoffptasciencefair@gmail.com

Wicoff Spirit Wear is open until Friday, March 5: Here is another opportunity to win extra recess for your class. The next upcoming **Wicoff Spirit Wear Day** is **March 19**. Wicoff School Spirit Wear Store is OPEN, if you haven't ordered the new Wicoff shirt yet, please click on the link that follows. **Spirit Wear Online Store:**

<https://wicoff21.itemorder.com/sale>

Upcoming event:

- March 25 - Bake night with Ms. Wendy Rosenthal

Amazon Smile: Please take a moment to link your Amazon account to Amazon Smile. Select "33626 job wicoff elem school" as charity under Amazon Smile. Click <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-3447652>. This will be no cost to you! Amazon in turn donates 0.5% of your purchase to the Wicoff PTA. Every dollar counts! And every good deed counts!

Questions? Email us at wicoff.ptainfo@gmail.com.

Useful PTA Links: [PTA Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Wicoff's Twitter](#)

SEPTSA

- **WW-P Special Education Parent Teacher Student Association (SEPTSA):** WW-P SEPTSA exists to support students and families of students with IEPs and 504 plans. Please join SEPTSA to be added to our mailing list and be sure to hear about upcoming events and speakers! Membership is open to all parents and families, older students (6th grade and above), and faculty and staff who support students with special needs. Please click [here](#) for more information.
- **NEW! WhatsApp group for WW-P Special Education families:** If you would like to connect with other WW-P families of special education students via WhatsApp, please complete this form and we will add you when the group is started -- [Connect with WWP special ed parents](#)
- **WW-P Special Education Parent Advisory Group (S.E.P.A.G.):** To support parents of students with an IEP or 504 plan, and to provide input to the district on special education issues, the WW-P SEPAG meets regularly throughout the school year. Additionally, SEPTSA/SEPAG hosts monthly virtual "office hours" for informal conversation and advice regarding issues around IEPs/504 plans.
- **The next "office hours" is Sunday, March 21, from 4-6 p.m.** Please contact Jennifer Riccards at jenballen@yahoo.com for more information or to receive the Zoom link. Future dates include April 18, and May 23. All times are Sundays from 4-6 pm. (If you cannot make one of these times and would like support or to connect with other families dealing with similar situations, please feel free to contact Jennifer at any time.)

Links: [SEPTSA Facebook Page](#) | [SEPTSA Website](#) | [Membership Form](#)

School

What is happening this week?

- This week on Monday, our 3rd grade students are going on a virtual field trip to Longwood Gardens.

- We have picture day on Tuesday, March 9, so come dressed in your best!
- Our character education theme for the month of March is responsible decision making. A great way to support your child with this is to have them thinking through their actions.

Technology Help Center: The Technology Help Center is located at High School South at 346 Clarksville Rd., West Windsor (please use the Penn Lyle Road entrance). The Help Center operates out of the entrance to the new theatre. Parents should pull up to the theatre entrance and wait in their car to be greeted by a member of the technology staff. The hours of operation are 12:45 - 3:15 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. WW-P students who need to request a device or with Chromebooks/iPads that are damaged or in need of repair should complete this [Google form](#) (students must log in to their Google account to access the form) prior to arriving at the Technology Help Center.

TCRWP Instructional Support for Families: Please see the resources listed below for supporting your child in virtual learning focusing on the areas of literacy (reading, writing, spelling and more). WW-P School District has had a long-standing partnership with Teachers College Reading and Writing Project (TCRWP). TCRWP has compiled a variety of resources for families to support student learning in the varied environments this year. Please visit this link to consider resources you may find helpful: [TCRWP Resources for Families](#)

Screen-Free Afternoons: The next Screen-Free afternoon is Wednesday, March 10. Grade 1, grade 2 and grade 3 classes will end at 1 p.m. AM Kindergarten will be on a regular schedule with some asynchronous learning and PM Kindergarten will go from 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. with some asynchronous learning. Please remember to have your child(ren) enjoy a variety of non-screen activities. Upcoming Screen-Free March dates are Wednesday afternoons: March 17 and March 24. Here are some ideas for [Screen-Free Activities](#).

Wicoff PTA: Your help and support is needed! It is never too late to join. The PTA has offered some really fun and exciting events for the students already and will continue to offer more as this school year continues. Our school benefits from a supportive PTA. We appreciate all they do for our students, staff and parents. If you have not already joined the PTA, we urge you to join by clicking on the link below. We are hoping for 100 percent participation. [Wicoff PTA Membership](#)

“Choose Kind” School Theme: Wicoff’s “Choose Kind” theme will continue throughout the year. Staff and students are encouraged to wear KIND shirts or Wicoff shirts on Fridays.

District: [WW-P District Website](#) | [Academic Calendars](#) | [Events Calendar](#)

Reminders

- Please click [here](#) for the March Hybrid Week Calendar as well as grade-level sample rotations and schedules. The week of March 8, is Hybrid week 2.
- **Spring Break:** All WW-P schools will be closed Monday, March 29, through Sunday, April 4, for spring break. Should the District not require the use of an additional snow day, all WW-P Schools will also be closed Monday, April 5. Virtual board offices are closed Friday, April 2.
 - School will resume after spring break with fully remote instruction for ALL students the week of April 6. In-person instruction will resume Monday, April 12, with Hybrid Week 1 and all-in students.
- **Screen-Free Afternoons:** Screen-Free afternoons will continue for the remainder of the school year. March Screen-Free afternoons will be held on Wednesdays. Click [here](#) for upcoming dates as well as each school's morning schedule on Screen-Free Afternoons.
- **Health Screening:** Please remember to complete the Daily Health Screening form for your child(ren) on the days they will be in-person. The form is located under the Forms tab in [Genesis](#).
- **Masks:** Please also be advised that neither neck gaiters or valve masks provide appropriate protection and are not permitted for use on school or district grounds. Please use a mask with two or more layers that fits snugly over the nose and face. If a student does not have an appropriate mask, one will be provided by the district upon request.
- **Contact Information:** Is your contact information up-to-date in Genesis? If your email or phone numbers have changed, please make sure to update your information in Genesis. If you would like to opt-in to receive SMS text messages from the District, please text "Yes" to "67587" from a cell phone that is listed with your contact information in Genesis. Text messaging rates may apply. For additional details, please click [here](#).
- **HSN KnightCare for Preschool-Aged Children:** High School North's Child Growth and Development class is accepting children, ages three and four, into their virtual classroom. The class uses the first semester of the school year to teach students in grades 9-12 the fundamentals of early childhood education. Please click [here](#) for more information.

Health and Safety

A Health and Safety Update from Dr. Aderhold will be sent Friday, March 5.

Counseling and Wellness

- **Save the Date for the next Virtual Parent University:** Wednesday, March 24, 2021, at 7 p.m. The topic will be "Coping with COVID-19: Child and

Adolescent Anxiety." Clinicians from Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care will assist parents in understanding anxious feelings, worries, and fears that are common among children and adolescents. Coping strategies, supports, and resources will also be presented. Please register in advance for this webinar:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BNX8Q4ZVQJSubkJOU8ym1w

- To view other past Parent University presentations, click [here](#).

Curriculum and Instruction

- Have a question about Google Classroom? Not sure how to use Zoom? Check out these [resources for support](#) in the Families and Caregivers Tutorial Helpdesk.

Community Education

- Join Community Education for a virtual Spring Break experience. Virtual Spring Break registration has begun! New programs and vendors have been added. To view and register for programs, check out the brochure here: [2021 Virtual Spring Break Guide](#). Virtual Spring Break takes place from Monday, March 29-Thursday, April 1.
- Community Education will offer EDP full-day care at Village School for students in grades K-8 during full remote learning the week of April 6 (following Spring Break). Care is offered Tuesday through Friday. For more information and to register, please click [here](#).
- Virtual Spring After School Enrichment registration has also opened. Exciting new programs await! Session 1 runs from April 1- May 6. Session 2 runs from May 10-June 7. Check out the brochure here: [2021 Virtual Spring After School Enrichment](#).
- To register for Community Education programs, visit the [Community Pass Registration Link](#).

Food Services

- Distribution for WW-P students who currently receive food benefits will occur on a **weekly basis**. Distribution will be held Mondays (unless otherwise noted due to the school calendar) at High School North from 3-6 p.m. Families who receive benefits will continue to receive emails asking for a response regarding participation for the coming week. Completing the registration form in the weekly email is required prior to pick up.
- In conjunction with the federal government and the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, a waiver has been issued that allows school-aged children access to

nutritious meals. As a participant in the National School Lunch Program, all WW-P students are extended the opportunity to receive free breakfasts and lunches due to the ongoing COVID-19 health emergency. Click [here](#) for more information. Please register [here](#) by 12 p.m. March 10, for the Monday, Mar. 15, distribution.

- Reminder: Registration for the Monday, March 8, distribution has closed. If you registered to receive the March 8, meal kit pickup, it will be held from 3-6 p.m. at High School North. **For pickup, please have students' names on a piece of paper in BOLD letters, and please wear a mask to keep volunteers safe during the check-in process.**
- To view this month's menus, please click [here](#).
- Spring is right around the corner! Check out the [NJ Seasonality chart](#) provided by the New Jersey Department of Agriculture. What are you planting in your garden this spring?

Technology

- WW-P students who need to request a device or with Chromebooks/iPads that are damaged or in need of repair should complete this [Google form](#) (students must log in to their Google account to access the form) and then come to High School South (346 Clarksville Road, West Windsor). Please enter using the Penn Lyle building entrance on Tuesday or Thursday from 12:45-3:15 p.m.

District Communication

- WW-P uses SchoolMessenger as our [district communication tool](#). It is important to ensure that your contact information is up-to-date in Genesis.

Virtual Community Events

- **Plainsboro Police Department:** During these unprecedented times, the Plainsboro Police Department invites the Plainsboro and West Windsor communities to join our FREE Virtual Interactive Policing program that will provide virtual and interactive seminars throughout the year. These seminars will address topics that have the greatest impact on the quality of life of our residents. For more information, please click [here](#).
- Click [here](#) for upcoming virtual events and activities from community groups and organizations.

WW-P Board of Education

- Check out the upcoming [Board of Education Meeting](#) dates. Agenda and materials for Board Meetings are published after 3:30 p.m. the Friday prior to the meeting.

Follow the district on WW-P's official social media pages.

[Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)