

Oct. 14, 2022

Wicoff Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

PTA

A huge thanks to Mrs. Emily Vorp for an amazing Stage a Story event! It was the perfect creative outlet for the kiddos. We have exciting events coming up! Mark your calendars!!

Upcoming Events:

- **Oct. 17-21: Book Fair.** Mark your calendars, Wicoff families! The Wicoff Fall Book Fair is next week from Oct. 17-21 and we need your help! We need parent volunteers to set up the book fair, and help students select books before school, during their library time, and at the in-person family event. We especially need help during kindergarten and 1st grade library times. All parent volunteers must bring a photo ID to present to security.
 - Sign up at this [Sign up Genius link](#), if you are able to help.
 - Email wicoff.ptainfo@gmail.com with any questions. Happy Reading!
- **Oct. 20: Family Bingo Night/Family Book Fair Night:** We are very excited to host our first Family Social of the year.
 - Check in at 6:15 p.m. Game time is 6:30-7:30 p.m.
 - It is free and a lot of fun. All family members are welcome.
 - No registration necessary.
 - Only kids will get Bingo cards to play and there are prizes to be won!!
 - Our amazing teachers will run Bingo Time.
 - Food will be available for purchase in the cafeteria. No food is permitted in the gym.
 - Children must be supervised by an adult at all times.
 - **Family Book Fair** hours will be from 6-8 p.m. Please visit the Media Center at any time during the evening.
- **Oct. 29: Wicoff booth at Plainsboro Recreation Center's Haunted Tonight.**
 - Costume parade, pumpkin picking, Trick or Treat, Halloween games, shows and more. The event will be held at Plainsboro Recreation grounds at 641 Plainsboro Road starting at 5 p.m. This is a free family event. No registration is needed. For more info, visit <https://www.plainsboronj.com/DocumentCenter/View/7821/HT>
- **Nov. 11 Submission Deadline: National PTA Reflections 2022-23: Theme is "Show Your Voice!"** We hope all of you have been working with your student to create a work of art for their PTA Reflections submission. Give them a chance

to showcase their talent. Remember they can submit their completed works of art in one or all of the available arts categories: Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, Visual Arts.

- **Last year Wicoff had three (3) award winners!!** Don't miss the deadline!!
- **No late entries will be accepted.**
- All students submitting an entry to Wicoff PTA Reflection program, **MUST** have at least one Wicoff **PTA member** in his/her household. Join the PTA to take advantage of this program.
- **All submissions must be made to [this google form link](#).** The visual arts category will be submitted to the class teacher. All other categories will be uploaded to google drive with a scanned copy of the entry form. **Must be a PTA member to participate. For more information click [here](#)**

Important Information:

- **Online registration** to become a PTA Member is available. This is how we fund great events for school every year. Please join: <https://wicoff.memberhub.com/store>
- **Spirit Wear:** Wicoff merchandise is available in a variety of sizes. A new order of merchandise has arrived! Please order either via [the form](#) or online at <https://www.unified-spectrum.com/wwp-wicoff-school> or email us at wicoff.ptainfo@gmail.com.
 - All sales are final. No refunds or exchanges.
- If you have any questions, concerns and/or ideas, please contact us at wicoff.ptainfo@gmail.com. Please 'Like' us on [Facebook](#) for updates, reminders, etc. or visit us at www.wicoffpta.org for further information.

Ways to support the PTA:

- **Amazon Smile:** <https://smile.amazon.com/> Add JVB Wicoff Elem School as a charity you support OR on your amazon app, go to settings -> Amazon Smile to add Wicoff school.
- **Support by Donating:** You can also support the organization by making monetary contributions to support various programs. Click [here](#) to donate.
- **Box Tops:** Download the Box Tops App on your phone, add Wicoff school and scan your receipts.

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

SEPTSA

- **SEPTSA Membership:** Our PTSA exists to support students and families of students with IEPs and 504 plans. Please join SEPTSA to be added to our mailing list and to hear about upcoming events and speakers! Membership is available to all parents and families, older students (6th grade and above), and faculty and staff who support students with special needs. For clarification, registering with your child's school PTA/PTSA or having your child classified or "registered" with Special Services is not the same as registering for SEPTSA membership. There are volunteer opportunities for our members ranging from just one hour total to one hour per month. Go to www.wwp-septsa.org for more information about SEPTSA.
- **WhatsApp for Special Ed Families:** Join us on WhatsApp to connect with other WW-P families of special education students. [Connect with WWP special ed parents](#)

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

SCHOOL

- **In Need Of Containers:** During the month of October, our third graders will be participating in measurement activities using 1-liter and 1-quart size containers as part of their Number Corner workouts. We are hoping to collect the following:
 - 1-quart size empty milk or juice containers
 - 1-liter clear or translucent empty bottles
 - If you happen to have any at home, we would love to take them off your hands. Please send in any rinsed-out empty containers with your child to school. Thanks so much for helping us out!
- **Halloween Parade:** Can you feel the chill in the air? Do you see the pumpkins, mums and cornstalks? Are you feeling the urge to dress up and parade? We are happy to share that the annual **Wicoff Halloween Parade** is back and will take place **MONDAY, Oct. 31 at 2 p.m.** The **a.m. Kindergarten classes will parade at 10:30 a.m.** Morning Kindergarten parents/caregivers will receive a note from their child's teacher with the parade route for the morning. Parents/caregivers are invited to watch both parades.
 - All classes will exit and proceed through the doors by the playground. Classes will walk around the entire school property on the sidewalk two times. The Plainsboro Police will be joining us in order to assist with the parade and keep us safe along the parade route. Spectators should spread themselves out along the parade route. Please feel free to bring a lawn chair so you may sit and watch the parade. After circling the property two times, the students will enter the building for the remainder of the school day.

- When considering your child's school costume, please consider appropriateness and ease of dressing and parading. NO WEAPONS of any type are permitted. **All costumes should be able to be put on quickly in the classroom.** Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. If you do not wish to have your child participate in the parade, please let your child's teacher know immediately. An alternate activity will be provided for children who do not participate.
- **Special Note:** There will be no rain date for the parade. In case of inclement weather, the students will parade through the hallways and gymnasium. If indoors, the parade will be limited to Wicoff students and staff members. No spectators will be permitted in the building. We appreciate your understanding!
- **Label ALL Student Personal Belongings:** Please be sure to label ALL of your child(ren)'s personal belongings. This will help ensure that personal belongings left behind in the classroom, on the buses or in the dining room will be returned to the owner. Please include name, grade, and teacher.
- **Construction Safety:** Please be aware that construction continues in the rear of the school building. Construction vehicles will be entering and exiting the school driveway located off of Plainsboro Road. Please drive carefully when on the school property!
- **Student Drop Off and Pickup:** When dropping off your child(ren), please park your car in the church parking lot and walk your child to the front doors (#1). Doors open at 8:40 a.m. Any student who arrives after 8:55 a.m. will need a late pass. When picking up your child(ren), please park in the church parking lot and meet your child(ren) outside of the gym doors (#14). Pick up begins at 3:10 p.m.
- **Genesis/Student Information System:** Our student information system, [Genesis](#), is filled with important information including attendance, grades/report cards, student emergency information, student schedules, bus routes, etc. Please familiarize yourself with our student information system.

Upcoming Events:

- Oct. 24 - WW-P Schools Closed
- Oct. 31 - Wicoff Halloween Parade (Information Above)

DISTRICT

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

Reminders

- **WW-P Schools Closed Monday, Oct. 24, 2022:** All WW-P schools and district offices will be closed Monday, Oct. 24, 2022. Please [click here](#) for the 2022-23 school year calendar.
- **District Newsletter:** [Click here](#) to read the Fall 2022 issue of the District newsletter.
- **Student Handbook and Policy Update:** District policies are updated on an as needed basis. In September, Policy 5600 was updated. In response, student handbooks have also been updated accordingly. Policy 5600 may be viewed [here](#).
- **Early Dismissal Requests for Students:** Parents/guardians notifying school attendance office/school secretary of a student early dismissal can be done via TeleSafe, a note in the "Daily Attendance" tab in Genesis Parent Portal or by emailing/sending a note to your school's attendance secretary.
- **Staff Email Addresses:** Staff email addresses use the following pattern [firstname.lastname@wwprsd.org](#) (e.g., Jim Smith is [jim.smith@wwprsd.org](#)).
- **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.
 - **Interested in receiving SMS text notifications from the District?:** If you would like to opt-in to receive SMS text messages from the District, please text "Yes" to "67587" from a cellphone that is listed in your contact information in Genesis. The cell phone must be listed in Genesis as a cell phone (not as a home phone number). Text messaging rates may apply. For additional details, please click [here](#).
- **WW-P Mobile Application:** The WW-P app is now available for download on both the [Apple](#) and [Google Play](#) app store. Designed for the school community, it features convenient links and information all in one place. Download the app using the hyperlinks above or by searching "WW-P Schools" in the Google Play Store or App Store on Apple.
- **Masks:** WW-P schools and district offices are masking optional but masking is recommended. The District reserves the right to update/revoke masking protocols due to events such as outbreaks in classroom/ school/ building, growing cases in our community, etc. Masking is also optional but recommended on all passenger buses.
- **Reporting COVID positive or COVID symptomatic:** For the 2022-23 school year, parents/guardians should report their student's COVID positive absence or report their student as COVID symptomatic in Genesis or via Tel-safe and email their school nurse for further instructions. There is NO Health Screening Form in Genesis for the 2022-23 school year. There is no virtual instruction for COVID-related exclusions. Please view the 2022-23 COVID guidance [here](#).
- **Substitutes:** Are you interested in being a substitute at WW-P? Please click [here](#) for more information and click [here](#) to apply.
- **Around the District News:**
 - **HSS PTSA** fundraisers available districtwide:

- It's the **Happy Birthday Lawn Sign!** Celebrate your birthday and help support HSS Student Celebrations! For more information and to reserve your date, click [here](#). Email Angela at Hssbirthdaysign@southpts.org with any questions.
- **W-P United Cheerleading will host a Youth Cheer Clinic** Oct. 29, 2022, from 9 a.m. -1 p.m. in the Auxiliary Gym at High School North for all athletes ages 4-13. For more information and to register, please [click here](#).

Health and Safety

- A [Health and Safety Update](#) from Dr. Aderhold will be sent every other Friday. The next update will be sent Oct. 14, 2022.
- Click [here](#) to review the District's School Exclusion Chart.
- Please note that for the safety of our school community, it is important that if your child is isolating or quarantining due to a COVID positive diagnosis, exposure or symptoms that they may not attend school or school events until their [quarantine/isolation period](#) has officially ended.
- WW-P, in conjunction with the West Windsor Health Department, will hold a **COVID-19 vaccine and booster clinic** Wednesday, Oct. 26, from 4-6 p.m. at the Board of Education district offices. Registration is required. Please [click here](#) for more information and to register. Adult and pediatric doses and boosters (including the bivalent booster) will be available at the clinic for those who are [eligible](#).

Athletics

- WW-P has updated ticketing procedures for United football and HSN and HSS basketball games and wrestling matches. All spectators must pre-purchase their tickets to the game through the Ticket Spicket Mobile Application or through the Ticket Spicket Website. Season passes are available as are tickets for individual games. Tickets for individual games are available for purchase one week prior.
 - [United Football Tickets](#)
 - [High School North Tickets](#)
 - [High School South Tickets](#)

Counseling

- **Virtual Parent University: School Refusal** - Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022, at 7 p.m. via Zoom
 - More information and registration link will be provided closer to the date.
- **Previous Virtual Parent University Events**
 - [Click here](#) for webinar materials and video of the **Parent University: ADHD** presentation that was held Oct. 6, 2022.
 - View material from all previous Parent University presentations [here](#).

- **Attention High School Seniors and Parent/Guardians:** Upcoming financial aid planning workshops and recordings/info from previous events
 - **Class of 2023 - Senior College Planning Nights:** Check out materials and recordings of the Sept. 12 (HSS) and Sept. 13 (HSN) events [here](#).
 - **College Financial Aid Virtual Workshops:** HESAA Virtual FAFSA Completion Workshops and NJ Alternative Financial Aid Workshops for NJDREAMERS will be offered throughout the fall and early winter. For upcoming dates and login links, please click [here](#).

Community Education

- **Program: How to Collaborate in Teams for 5th-8th Grade Students (October 24):** R2K Leadership is back with another great opportunity for students to learn the value of teamwork. Through interactive activities and powerful speakers, students will walk away with a new perspective on effectively working and sharing ideas with team members in a leadership setting.
 - Spaces are limited and registration closes Wednesday, Oct. 20 at 12 p.m.
 - Please note there is no EDP for this program.
 - To register for Oct. 24's How to Collaborate in Teams Program, please set up your Community Pass account here: [Community Pass Registration Link](#). Click on 2022-2023 Adult & Youth.
 - To read the full description, check out page 9 in the Fall guide here: [2022 Fall Program Guide](#).
- **Adult Programs:** Community Education not only offers youth programs, but adult programs as well! Check out page 11 in the Fall guide here: [2022 Fall Program Guide](#).

Food Services

- Check out the **Sodexo menus** and newsletter by [clicking here](#).
- **PaySchools Central** is the food service online system, click [here](#) for directions for creating an account.
- The **application for free and reduced price school meals**, which also opens up other food benefits for families, is available for completion for the 2022-23 school year in your [PaySchools Central](#) account or may be downloaded from the [District website](#). Benefits for current recipients will expire Oct. 21, 2022. Families must submit a new application for the 2022-23 school year.
- The School Nutrition Association has created a video regarding school meal changes for the 2022-23 school year. The video can be viewed in [English](#) and in [Spanish](#).
- Check out the Food Services Department's [Welcome Back Newsletter](#) for the 2022-23 school year. Additional information regarding Food Services can also be viewed [here](#).

- Interested in a part-time job serving nutritious meals to our students? Please call Food Services at (609) 716-5000 x5938, or visit www.Sodexo.jobs and search "Plainsboro".

Technology

- District issued Chromebooks for students in grades kindergarten through grade 3 are kept in the classroom.
- District issued Chromebooks for students in grades 4-12 are for students to use both in school and to take home.
 - Students should bring their fully charged Chromebooks to school with them each day.
 - Charging cords should remain at home.
 - Middle school families: The Chromebook cover from last year's device should be used on this year's device. If you do not have a cover from last year, please follow the process at your school to submit tech ticket so that we can provide a cover.

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.
- The WW-P mobile application is now available for download on both the [Apple](#) and [Google Play](#) app store. Designed for the school community, the app features convenient links and information all in one place (e.g., events calendar, District notifications, news, and more). Download the app using the hyperlinks above or by searching "WW-P Schools" in the Google Play Store or App Store on Apple.

Special Education Parent Advisory Group (SEPAG)

- WW-P SEPAG's mission is to facilitate communication between students, parents, staff, the Board of Education, and the community, about issues surrounding the district's special education programs and to advise the Board of Education and administration on matters about improving the quality of special education district-wide.
- WW-P SEPAG is a state-mandated group for parents, educators, and individuals concerned about children with special needs and/or learning difficulties in the WW-P School District.
- If you are interested in joining our mailing list, please fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/ujE5PRyK5khchL7j9>.

Community Events

- The West Windsor Health Department has **COVID-19 vaccine clinics** scheduled throughout the month of October. Details and registration information may be found [here](#). Information regarding second booster eligibility can be found [here](#).
- West Windsor Recreation will host a free Trunk or Treat event Saturday, Oct. 29, from 2-4 p.m. in the Liquid Church Parking Lot (545 Meadow Rd.). For more information [click here](#). To register to decorate a “trunk” and hand out candy, please [click here](#).
- Click [here](#) for upcoming 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.
- Board of Education meetings are held in the multipurpose room at Central Office, 321 Village Road East, West Windsor, NJ. The meetings are also live streamed via the District’s [YouTube channel](#).

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

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