

Upper School
NEWSLETTER

October 26, 2020



Congratulations Hearts Athletes!



At NACA (National Association of Christian Athletes) national tournament, Hearts volleyball placed 3rd in Division 2 and won the Sportsmanship Award. Hearts soccer placed 2nd in Division 2.

For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.
-Hebrews 12:11 (ESV)

“We may not be able to prepare the future for our children, but we can prepare our children for the future.”

— Franklin D. Roosevelt

(for more on this topic, see the section entitled *Table Talk*)

Calendar Items (Deo Volente...God Willing)

- Tuesday, November 3, - Lecture with Mr. Sam Prentis
- Wednesday, November 4 - Chapel led by Pastor Steve Strong
- Wednesday, November 4 - Cash for Donuts (\$1.00/donut). Proceeds go to World Vision hosted by the House of Augustine.
- Thursday, November 5 - Hot Pretzel Sale Cash and Carry (\$1.50) Proceeds go to World Vision and hosted by the House of Galileo.
- Thursday, November 5 - Virtual College Fair (optional) click [HERE](#)
- Friday, November 6 - CLASSICAL PARENT UNIVERSITY 6:30-8:00pm at WCA. Click [HERE](#) for more info and link for registration (Babysitters come 6:10-8:10)
- Tuesday, November 10 - HUMANITIES DAY!!!!
- Tuesday, November 10 - PTF Virtual Meeting 6:30
- Friday, November 13 - Forms and fees are due for 5-8th basketball: [Forms and fees](#)
- Friday, November 13 - Staff Inservice [NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS]
- Wednesday, November 18 - Virtual College visit with Covenant College for 10-11 at lunch.
- Wednesday, December 2 - Virtual college visit with Pensacola Christian for grades 10-11 at lunch. (Younger students are welcome, space permitting).

Logistics / Communication

- **Look for access to the US Newsletter on the WCA App!**
- Upper School intends to provide an “outdoor” option time choice for students. Please note that it is the students’ responsibility to come with the proper cold weather attire. Recess monitors will not check for proper gloves, hats, coats etc.
- **LOST AND FOUND** is located between Miss Stein’s and Mr. Whiteman’s offices. Personal items left on the floor or on top of lockers will be placed there each evening.
- If your student must be dismissed early for a sporting event, please email Miss Stein, Mrs. Zuccola, and the student’s teachers whose classes will be affected *with as much advance notice as possible*. Students should also check with classmates to get missed notes and with their teachers to get handouts or assignments and to schedule make up tests/quizzes.
- If a student needs to get a message from a parent, (if an appointment is cancelled or a ride has changed etc.), email Miss Stein (wca@westsideacademy.org) and she will get the information passed along to your student as soon as possible.
- If a student needs materials due to an absence, materials can be collected and sent home. Students OR parents may email Miss Stein listing all items to be retrieved from lockers. These items will be left at the reception desk for pick up.
- To protect teachers’ time, in lieu of texting, please direct questions to teacher emails. Click [HERE](#) to access their email addresses.

Can you help?

The Upper School is looking for games for Option Time when we have to be indoors! Please donate any gently used games that you do not need returned. Uno, SkipBo and card games welcome.

Academic Updates and Highlights

Humanities Update: We are looking forward to yet another exciting week in Humanities! Here is a brief look at what your students will be interacting with this week:

Mr. Sasser's classes will continue their interactive and performance-based study of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. Ask your students what they think of this, probably the greatest of Shakespeare's plays. While studying *Hamlet* students are also doing homework studying the discipline of architecture.

In Miss Prentis's class students are studying the life of Martin Luther and continuing their studies of other important Medieval theologians and philosophers.

Our lecture this week will be on the Vikings and will be presented by Mr. Sam Prentis. We are excited to welcome him to WCA! Feel free to listen in at westsideacademy.org/lecture

Humanities Day is coming up! Prepare your students for an incredibly exciting (and currently secret) day next Tuesday, November 10th. They don't want to miss it, so if your student has a scheduled absence that could be rescheduled off of that day it would probably be a good idea.

Did You Know?

High school students have access to a large number of online resources including magazines, journals, texts, SAT/ACT test practice, and other resources through infohio.org, the library source used in high schools statewide. In addition, ANYONE in the state of Ohio can apply for a Cuyahoga County library card, with which you may access all libraries in the state with OhioLink? This is a fabulous resource to access books predominantly housed in both Christian and secular Colleges.

Change Wars Update

This week's winner with the most money raised is the House of Lewis. For the heaviest contribution, the winner was the House of Aquinas. Lewis won breakfast treats and House of Lewis has the privilege of wearing a dress down hoodie on November 2 only.

Service Opportunity

Upper School Student babysitters are needed for the Classical Parent University event November 6. Time commitment is 6:10-8:10. This is a PAID service opportunity. Based on student registration, Mrs. Anthony will email parents and students.

Table Talk (What to talk about around the dinner table)**Training Them Up**

Who wakes up the Upper School student(s) living in your house? Who packs his/her lunch? Who tells him/her to do homework? How are they progressively gaining more independence, not that they will leave behind their parents, but so that they will best reflect the diligent training that took place in their homes, ultimately that they may better serve the Lord and their own families one day.

While for some responsibilities, it can be too early to expect an upper schooler to do something on his or her own; however, it might be a good idea to begin working towards specific goals. There are certainly things for which students should regularly demonstrate independence. Do you need to remind your student to get his backpack before getting into the car each morning? Perhaps prompt him each evening to place his backpack by the door. From clearing the dinner table to putting away laundry; from caring for pets to caring for the lawn, opportunities abound for students to be trained to take initiative, work independently, and model what it will look like for them to live independently.

In addition to training, it is a good life lesson to make privileges contingent on students meeting expectations. If a student wants a ride to a friend's house, perhaps it should be on the condition that her room is clean. If a student wants to use a car, perhaps he or she needs to refuel it, pay for insurance, or wash it. While each family functions differently, working towards independence and adulthood is a continual process.

Teachers regularly uphold developmentally appropriate expectations for students, offering assistance to those who need more attention with areas like preparedness, discipline in studying and completing make up work, and keeping orderly lockers and binders. As parents know, each student functions differently, some stronger at executive functioning skills, others stronger at creative thinking; however, we celebrate that each student can constantly be growing in all areas.

Time passes quickly, and truth be told, during students' junior and senior years, we see habits deeply embedded into students' lives— both good and bad. Hard work and diligent training early on pay off immensely.

Ask:

What areas are you well-equipped to be independent academically? In the area of self-care? To one day live independently? What are some privileges that you earn at home? How might you demonstrate that you are prepared for more responsibility?

Handbook Highlight

[This section highlights sections of the Upper School handbook as a reminder of school policy.]

Make-up Work

In the event a student is ill, the student will have two days to make up the missed work after they return or is responsible to make arrangements with each teacher. If a student is absent for an extended period of time, teachers should be contacted by the parents. For students in grades 7-8, parents or students are responsible to request homework assignments in the morning which will be available for pick up at the end of the school day. If they are able, students in grades 9-12 should email teachers for assignments. Failure to meet make-up work guidelines may result in a zero.

In the event a student is absent from school because of vacation or any other planned absences, a completed Planned Absence Request form must be submitted to the school office at least one week prior to the absence. When possible teachers will give students assignments before they leave, and assignments will be due within four (4) days after their return to school.

Dress Down Day Guidelines

Uniforms encourage students to operate as a team and empower them to express themselves in the ways that we train: through their clear thinking and expression of ideas, not just their clothing. Dress down days are privileges, and are not intended to be opportunities to draw attention to oneself in a distracting manner. If a student is unsure about an item of apparel, he or she should bring a substitute item with him/her and immediately check with the US Dean or Headmaster and be prepared to change if it is deemed distracting or unsafe. Here are specifics:

- Students should wear pants [**no shorts**/ yoga/stretch pants or pants with tears].
 - Text on shirts/sweatshirts should be appropriate; if text features the name of another school, it should only be one for whom a student participates as an athlete.
 - No tight-fitting shirts, tank tops, cut offs, or short shirts.
 - Skirts of modest length may be worn by young ladies.
 - Footwear should not be high heels, flip flops, or sandals.
 - No hats or sunglasses.
 - No attire that is deemed by teachers to be distracting.
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Bell Schedules:

	Chapel Day (Wednesdays)		2020 Schedule (M, T, Th, F)
1	8:45-9:25	1	8:45-9:30
2	9:25-10:05	2	9:30-10:15
3	10:05-10:45	3	10:15-11:00
Chapel	10:45-11:30	4	11:00-11:45
5A Compass Group Lunch	11:30-12:10	5 Lunch	11:45-12:10
4	12:10-12:50	6	12:10-12:55
6	12:50-1:30	7	12:55-1:40
7	1:30-2:10	Option Time	1:40-2:00
8	2:10-2:50	8	2:00-2:45
9	2:50-3:25	9	2:45-3:30

College Counseling Office News

- For 2020-2021 CLT / SAT/ ACT test dates and registration deadlines, click [HERE](#).
 - WCA funds and administers on-campus testing for the CLT 8, CLT 10, and CLT tests:
 - CLT 8 - Grades 7 and 8 - Wednesday, May 5, 2021
 - CLT 10 - Grades 9 and 10 - Wednesday, April 28, 2021
 - CLT - Grades 11 and 12 - Thursday, February 11, 2021
 - Praying about where God is directing your student after graduating from WCA? There are many directions. While the world would elevate the vocational factors, finances, and “opportunity,” consider first and foremost the student’s spiritual development. Is there a bible-believing church that he or she can attend? While some are led to state schools, private schools can be as affordable. Here is a list of schools to consider touring virtually or in person: click [HERE](#).
 - Looking for ACT/SAT prep help from a Christian instructor? Bill Brown offers services. Click [HERE](#) for more information.
 - Would your student like assistance analyzing his or her vocational calling? WCA teacher Mr. Eric Pfeiffer is Career Direct certified. Click [HERE](#) to read more about the program.
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Praises

- Beautiful artwork created by our US students. Gallery coming soon!
- Noema Lectures are available online at www.westsideacademy.org or click [HERE](#)
- Students staying committed to excellent academics and becoming leaders.
- Students' steadfast commitment to doing all that they can to keep learning in person.
- The progress being made with the modular unit's preparation.
- The progress the students have made academically, spiritually, and socially during this first quarter AT school.
- Praise for the safe return of students from the NACA tournament.

Prayer Requests

- For this year's theme of humility to be lived out through the thoughts, attitudes of the heart, and actions of WCA's students, teachers, administration, staff, and families
- For God to provide the opportunity for students to continue meeting in person for second quarter
- For the timely completion of the modular units for Concordia, 5th, and 6th grades
- For WCA families to be united around their love for Christ, His promises, and WCA's mission
- For health for our students, teachers, faculty, and their families
- For teachers, parents, and students to teach, parent, and grow in all of the ways God desires to grow the students. To focus on what God can do in and among and through us
- For WCA families with parents serving in the military
- For the fundraising efforts for the US's goal of providing gifts through World Vision to those in need to be fruitful and Christlike

*Act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God.*

Micah 6:8
