



## Will Carleton Academy

2001 W. Hallett Rd, Hillsdale, MI 49242 • 517-437-2000 • WillCarletonAcademy.com • Tuition-Free K-12

December 6, 2021

Dear Will Carleton Academy Families,

It was so nice to see so many of you at the Hillsdale Light Up Parade this past Saturday! Whether walking with the WCA crew or waving along the streets, we were out in full force! It was a perfect way to spend a Saturday evening spreading holiday cheer! Thank you to the Parent Forum for all of your support with this revered tradition. It was a festive event for sure!

Another festive event is our Holiday Concert this Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup>! Practices have started and the stage is set! The week of rehearsals will allow us to work out the kinks and to polish all of our musical numbers for you! Please be reminded that the concerts are at 2:00 pm and at 7:00 pm. The students participate in both presentations and every voice is needed! Students should arrive at 6:40 pm to their classrooms in their formal uniforms, ready to sing their little hearts out! If you are not attending the evening performance and are simply dropping off your student, please use the main driveway/entrance and look for the staff member to welcome your child. They will hustle up the walkway and join their classmates inside for the evening. When picking up your child, the process will be the same; teachers will help your child to the car. All students should be in formal uniform for the event: their brightest whites and their greenest greens! They will all look simply wonderful up on the stage! I can't wait!

Ornament Day is this Friday for all students, K-12. Please allow the children to wear their holiday casual attire, keeping in mind casual day guidelines. This is another wonderful day on campus and I am anxious for all of the giggles and memories that this day brings!

Included in your mailer today is a Pizza Day order form and an order form for a 2021-2022 Will Carleton Academy Yearbook. Pizza orders are due this Friday and Pizza Day will be next Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. Yearbook orders will be taken indefinitely for the book that is in process! I just love to see that camera around capturing all the memories of each and every day. I hope you can reserve yours today!

A reminder from the office that water bottles need to be on campus every day. Glass water bottles should not be sent to school with the children as we have now had broken bottles in the building. Please let me know if you need support securing a water bottle for your student. I am happy to help!

Thank you for keeping winter gear coming each day! Recess on the playground can be chilly these days without proper gear: hats, gloves/mittens, boots, snow pants and winter coat. We do have a few items to lend, but of course our expectation is for each child to have their own. Again, holler if you need help with this! I am always looking to support you however I can.

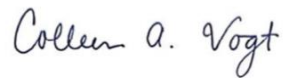
Almost a week has passed since the tragic events in our neighbors to the north, Oxford, Michigan. Words cannot describe the weight that I carried last week when considering our school family and the responsibility that accompanies our daily routines on campus. I want to express my most sincere and heartfelt reminder of the seriousness with which I approach each day as your school leader. With the support of our board of directors, faculty, staff, and management company, I know that WCA has practiced and will continue to be mindful of the presence of these potential situations in our world. We

take each opportunity to better ourselves when evaluating the procedures in place that protect us all. I rely on teachers and staff members, students and parents to keep open communication, even when the topic is hard; those are the conversations that bring the most awareness and provide for the most growth.

As we move forward over the next days, weeks and months, please help me reassure your children that they are safe at school. Please listen to your children as they want to talk about their day. Try every day to take an active role in their education, both at home and on campus, allowing you to be more aware of our time together. You are welcome to call me anytime to check-in, to be present. Those are the best relationships!

Have a wonderful week! I look forward to sharing in our holiday concert with each of you later this week. It truly is the most wonderful time of year.

Be well,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Colleen A. Vogt". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Colleen A. Vogt