



## Will Carleton Academy

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

October 10, 2022

Dear Will Carleton Academy Families,

Happy Monday! Seems like we might have some warmer temps and much needed rain this week. Nighttime temps are making Opening Ceremony chilly in the mornings. Please send those light jackets for Opening Ceremony to allow the students to be comfortable while standing at the flag.

The Reverse Raffle is here! I hope this Parent Forum event is on your calendar as it is one that makes memories for sure! If you are new to WCA, please know that we welcome all to this fundraising event. Please know that if you can't make the event this Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at Johnny T's, you need not be present to win, so buying a ticket to show your support to the Parent Forum is a very viable option. We will call you if you win something! Please let the office know if you need a ticket or, be looking for Mr. Watkins walking through the pick-up line to make it super convenient for all who plan to purchase a ticket. And, please send in the themed basket items for your child(ren)'s class basket by Wednesday of this week. We appreciate your generosity!

This week brings the end of our first quarter and an early dismissal on Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. The teachers will spend the afternoon working on report cards and planning for the second quarter. Please plan to pick up your child(ren) at 11:40 am this Friday. A little gift of some extra weekend time for you all!

As the first quarter ends, things like homework and behavior expectations are settling in. Please work with your child to help them have a deeper understanding of why these two sets of expectations remain high on campus each day. Our TO DO LIST each day is long and detailed and requires all assignments to be current and behavior distractions to be non-existent. The beautiful thing about this is when the children arrive to campus, even the smallest moments of achievement can be celebrated! Every nugget of information is necessary to move to the next curriculum item and therefore all students have the same opportunity to excel! This is certainly a recipe for success!

It is hard to believe that Parent Teacher Conferences are on the calendar for the month of October! Please be checking your family calendar and prepare to call the office next Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup> to begin scheduling conferences for Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. The students will have an early dismissal on Thursday the 27<sup>th</sup> and conference appointments will be available beginning early afternoon and continue into the evening on that Thursday. Please be reminded that childcare will be available during conferences and that the expectation is that the students do not attend conferences with parents and teachers. This policy is not new for WCA and truly provides the most productive time for parents and teachers to talk candidly about the progress of students. Thank you for planning time to talk about our students.

Uniform pieces are slowly but surely arriving to campus and to homes. Please be sure that all children are in WCA's uniform khaki and hunter, plaid and blazers. I love a good GAP khaki or Lands End hunter polo, but those are not part of our uniform code! Please communicate with me if there is an obstacle to you securing the correct uniform pieces; we definitely have a plan for that! I will begin making phone calls to families to see if help is needed to secure official uniform pieces. Please know that being in uniform is so important for all students.

I must also use my communication platform to mention the speed and careless driving that continues to happen during drop-off and pick-up. PLEASE understand that as parents of WCA students you all owe each other the respect of carefully paying attention while driving on campus. As soon as you enter either driveway, PLEASE stop cell-phone use and pay the closest attention to the details of this process. SLOW speed is expected of everyone while on campus. During drop-off, please pull all the way up to the farthest available spot on the loading sidewalk. This will help keep the process flowing. That is an expectation. During pick-up, following the faculty team's directions while paying attention is the expectation. During both processes, speed must not exceed a safe speed; that obvious detail seems to escape some drivers as I continue to receive reports of careless driving. I appreciate all who take this time on campus as serious as it is. I am grateful for all who adhere to the long-standing procedures of drop-off and pick-up.

The office has been giving lots of cups for drinking throughout the day to many students. Please work at home to include packing a water bottle into the daily routine. The water bottle fillers are up and working well, yet we still have the drinking fountains not accessible to all on campus. Thank you for this support!

The WCA yearbook for this academic year needs an adult advisor. If this is something that interests you, please let me know. I have a team of students who are interested in pulling this annual task together, but they need that special someone to guide them toward the end product. I am happy to talk through the responsibilities for this undertaking. Please let me know if you have questions about this terrific opportunity.

Band is about to begin for returning instrumentalists! Please be sure that if your child is interested, that they are communicating that interest to Miss Fieser. The time for these rehearsals will be before school in a "zero hour" so-to-speak and Miss Fieser will be communicating that to all interested students. Beginning band students, our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders, will begin their band time later in the second quarter. WCA is scheduling an instrument fitting and rental night with Meyer Music and more details about that will be forthcoming. I am happy for those students who continue to ask about band! Your patience and excitement have been gifts to us all!

All students have been reminded to keep their cell phones off until they get into vehicles after dismissal. That long-standing policy seems to need a reminder every once in a while. Even during the few minutes that the students wait for loading into cars during dismissal, the distraction of cell phones are proving detrimental. I appreciate your support with this reminder.

Please communicate with the office when your child is not feeling well. It is important that we work together to keep all safe and healthy during our school week. When common sense prevails, together we can make a difference for all!  
Have a great week!

Be well,



Colleen A. Vogt