Hello Academy Families,

Happy Spring! Thank you to everyone involved in our facilities assessment team. I am excited about the changes that will be coming to our school to make this place a more-creative, inviting, and child-focused place of learning with the arts! We will have more updates as we move forward!

Please remember that as spring approaches and the weather gets warmer, our little playground becomes a bit of a muddy mess. We will do our best to keep our students away from the mud, but please talk with them at home about staying away from the mud. Also, please dress them appropriately - boots for outdoor play are still important. A change of clothes for the “ littles” might not be a bad idea either.

Friendly reminder - it is family re-enrollment time. I need to get all our kids and families counted so I can appropriately plan for next year. Please make sure to fill out the form on the website - https://www.westmichiganacademy.org/. It would be a shame to lose your spot at our amazing school!

Broadway Saturday! We have another Broadway Saturday happening on April 18 from 8:30am - 11:30am with a professional dancer from Wicked. We have reduced the price for this opportunity so that more students can take advantage of this! Please sign up at wmaaa.ludus.com - ages 7 - 18. Encourage everyone to attend this event! This would be a great opportunity to introduce other students to WMAAA.

March is READING month! Please complete your reading minutes at home as we are trying to take a trip around the world with all of our reading minutes. We love reading at WMAAA!!

Finally, I have included an information article about COVID19 - Coronavirus in this newsletter. We are taking this threat very seriously and we are working closely with the Ottawa County health department, CDC, our custodial staff, and our local ISD to ensure we are getting the most up to date information. Please remember to keep your kids home if they have a fever, and keep them home until they are fever-free for 24 hours. Also, please encourage covering your coughs and sneezes with your elbow and WASH YOUR HANDS!! We will update you as we learn more.

As always, we appreciate you and your families’ support at our school. If you have family or friends that are interested in joining this great little school, please encourage them to call the office and schedule a tour. We need to have more friends join us!!

Thank you for all you do!

Sincerely,
Information from the Ottawa Health Department and the CDC

Coronavirus Disease 2019

There is an expanding global outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus. The disease it causes is called Coronavirus Disease 2019 or COVID-19. It was first identified during an investigation into an outbreak in Wuhan, China. While most COVID-19 cases outside of China have been associated with travel to or from China, community spread is being detected in a growing number of countries. For the general American public, the immediate health risk from COVID-19 is low. Currently, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ottawa County or in Michigan.

What is the Ottawa County Department of Public Health doing about it?

- Monitoring the COVID-19 situation daily.
- Continually communicating with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and healthcare providers.
- Reviewing preparedness and response plans.

How can I help protect myself?

- There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, everyday preventive actions help to prevent the spread of respiratory diseases such as influenza (flu) and COVID-19. These include
  - Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
  - Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
  - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.

- If you are sick, to keep from spreading respiratory illness to others, you should
  - Stay home when you are sick.
  - Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
o Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

- Should I wear a facemask?
  o If you are well, the CDC does not recommend a facemask to protect against respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
  o You should only wear a mask if a healthcare professional recommends it.

Preparations at WMMAA

We are working with the Ottawa Health department and the MDE to closely monitor our students and faculty. We are using our custodial staff to make sure cleaning protocols are followed to maintain a safe working and learning environment. We are reviewing safety precautions with our students such as diligent hand-washing, covering your cough, and going to the office if you feel sick or have a fever.

Families can help us by making sure students stay home if they are not feeling well and make sure not to send your students back to school until they have been free of their fevers for 24 hours without medication.

Thank you for your help.

Mrs. Bennink
Important Dates

March 3 5th Grade to Central Wesleyan Church 8:20-11:15am
March 4 PM Conferences
March 5 1/2 Day for Students; PM Conferences
March 6 1/2 Day for Students and Staff
March 9-13 Scholastic Book Fair
March 9-17 Open Enrollment
March 11 TK to GR Children’s Museum 8:45-11:45am
March 19 Dance for Change 6:30-8:00pm
March 20 Popcorn Day $.50/bag
March 24 Board Meeting in Music Room 6:30pm
March 25 Band and Choir Concert 6:30-8:00pm
March 27 End of Q3
March 30 1st Grade to Grandville HS 11:45-3:00pm
April 3 1/2 Day for Students and Staff
April 6-10 Spring Break No School
April 15 3rd Grade to Frauenthal 12:00-2:00pm
April 16 Enrollment Lottery
April 17 Popcorn Day $.50/bag
April 20 PTSO Meeting 4pm Room 601
April 24 5th Grade to Loutit Library 10:15-11:20am
April 27 Cool School Day at Sweet Temptations
May 6 8th Grade to GVSU 8:30am-2:45pm
May 7th, 8th and 9th Spring Musical—Freaky Friday
May 15 Popcorn Day $.50/bag
May 16 Mother Son Bowling Sherman Lanes 10:00-12:00pm TK-5
**Family Re-Enrollment**

Family Re-Enrollment is now online. Please login to your Parent Portal account:

https://ottawami.infinitecampus.org/campus/portal/parents/wmaaa.jsp

Re-Enrollment is active until March 6th.

When you login to your account, on the left hand side you will click on “more” and then “online registration”. Please add any SIBLINGS you wish to enroll for the 20-21 school year through the online portal application. Also, if you are not planning on returning to WMAAA next year, please let the office know. If you have any questions about enrollment or need access to your parent portal account, please don’t hesitate to ask Mrs. Zillmer in the office—616.844.9961 or wzillmer@westmichiganacademy.org

**Preschool Enrollment**—

If you are registering for Preschool you will need to fill out a Preschool Registration Form which you can pick up in the WMAAA Preschool room or main office.

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**A Note from Mr. Auten’s Music Class**

Last week, kindergarteners had the opportunity to connect emotions with music in Mr. Auten's music class. Students were given props to hold onto with a smiley emoji on one side and a crying emoji on the other. Students then listened to a series of happy sounding and sad sounding songs. Each time the song changed, they had to decide if the song made them feel happy or sad. They responded emotionally to the music they heard by holding the corresponding emoji in front of their faces. It was a blast for the students and fun for me to watch!
Kids Heart Challenge

The Kids Heart Challenge is HERE!

Together with the American Heart Association, we’re helping create a nation of healthier kids. And that goal can’t come soon enough. Roughly 91% of kids have a poor diet, and more than 50% of kids in this country are not getting the physical activity they need to be healthy.

This year at WMAA anyone that raises $50 will get to participate in turning a teacher into a HUMAN ICE CREAM CONE! We really appreciate your support. Let’s get started, register your child today!

http://www2.heart.org/goto/wmaaa
2020 MSYBS Baseball/Softball Registration

Registration Fees:
Instructional Coed (Tee Ball) $70. All games played at Hile Rec
Baseball and Softball 8U, 10U, and 12U $75. Games played at Hile Rec and Away

Deadline for registration is March 20, 2020
PeeWee/Ponytail 8u, Minors 10u, and Majors 12u baseball and softball will be evaluated and drafted onto a team appropriately. The Date for player evaluation is March 21st at Mona Shores Middle School, you will be notified with the times.

How to Register:

- Online registrations:
  http://tshq.bluesombrero.com/monashores

- Like our Facebook page: MSYBShileRec

- Winter workouts are on Tuesday 4:30 to 6 at The Sports Academy at the pines $5/ wk
YMCA Camp Pendalouan

Spring Break Escape Day Camp

April 6 - 10

$145/person for grades K-6th

Limited spots! 231.894.4538
SPRING INTO NATURE

Spring Break Day Camp
YMCA CAMP PENDALOUAN
April 6-10, 2020
9am to 5pm daily
For grades K-6
Program fee: $145/person*

Kids - Do you like hiking, climbing, crafting, playing in the woods, slingshots or archery? Spend your week at YMCA Camp Pendalouan where you can do all these things and more!!

Parents - you can drive your child to camp each day (drop-off is at 9:00 am and pick-up is at 5:00 pm). OR, for your convenience, we also offer transportation for an additional fee of $40/child for the week, payable in advance. Seats are limited, registration is first come, first served. Lunch and an afternoon snack are provided.

Transportation is provided from 2 locations:
The Mart Dock, 560 Mart St, Muskegon MI
White Lake Area Chamber of Commerce (WLACC), 124 E Hanson St, Whitehall MI
Pick-up/Drop-off times TBD
*transportation fee additional $40/child

2020 Spring Break Day Camp Registration Form

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<th>Camper Name</th>
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Parent Name:
Email:
Address:
City, State, Zip:
Home Phone:
Work/Cell Phone:

Transportation needs (please check one):
☐ Round Trip—The Mart Dock. ☐ Round Trip—White Lake Area Chamber of Comm. ☐ I will bring my child to camp.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Payment Amount: ____________

(At $50 non-refundable deposit per child is required to hold your registration. Balance is due one week prior to the start of camp.)

Check/Money Order
Credit Card #: ____________ Exp. Date: ____________ Security #: ____________

Authorized Signature: ___________________________ Print Name: ___________________________

Register online: pendalouan.org
Mail registration to 1243 E. Fruitvale Rd., Montague, MI 49437
Fax to 231-485-0177 or call 231-894-4538