

West Side Christian School  
**PARENT BULLETIN**  
March 10, 2020



“Be still, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth.”  
**Psalm 46:10**

**WSCS COMING EVENTS:**

<b>March</b>	14	Odyssey of the Mind State Competition at Thornapple Kellogg School
	16	Subs and Sweets Order Pick-up from 2:30-5:30pm
	17	Middle School Skating Party 7-9pm
	18	BUDS: Blandford Animals at 9:00am
	20	Rock Your Socks: Down Syndrome Day
	20	5th Grade Wax Museum
	20	End of 3rd quarter
	23	Band Solo Festival
	23	Society Meeting at 7:00pm in the music/band room
	26-27	No Early Childhood Classes - 3s, 4s, NB and Y5s classes
	27	Dress Like Your Favorite Book Character Day
	27	Report Cards
	28	Science Olympiad Regional Competition
	31-4/2	Makers' Week
	<b>April</b>	3
13		Classes Resume
13		All School Easter Chapel
15		Light It Up Blue: Autism Awareness Day
15		BUDS: Week of the Young Child at 9:00am
17		Recess Bake Sale
27-5/1		WSCS Fine Arts Week
30	Fine Arts Open House	

**MARCH IS READING MONTH:** We are celebrating this month with several reading events and activities. Your child(ren) has brought home a calendar to share some of those happenings, including being in a drawing for Gift Card to Barnes and Noble, being featured on the Readers Hall of Fame, and dressing up as your favorite book character. We encourage your whole family to join in the fun!

**WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY** is observed on March 21. Around the world this day is used to raise awareness of Down syndrome, a congenital disorder caused by having an extra 21st chromosome. Rock Your Socks is a special way that raises awareness about Down syndrome and represents the unique differences that make our school, community and world better. **WSCS will celebrate this on Friday, March 20.** This year we have a very special guest visiting for WSDS! Mrs. Litwiller's older brother, Seth Bauersfeld, will be visiting classes, reading Bible stories or showing a powerpoint about his life. Seth has Down syndrome and lives life to the fullest!

**ANNUAL SOCIETY MEETING - MARCH 23 AT 7:00PM:** The School Board invites you to this annual meeting to hear an update about the school and the WSCS Educational Foundation, vote on tuition rates for 2020-21 and elect new Board members. The meeting will take place in the music/band room. More information will be coming soon.

**YOU CAN HELP WSCS HIT THE TRAIL RUNNING!** Spread the word about the upcoming West Side [Longest Day 5K Trail Run at Blandford Nature Center](#) on June 19. Runners will enjoy the natural beauty within Grand Rapids city limits. This family-friendly event includes food, beverages, a beer from [DeHop's Brewing Company & Café](#), and live entertainment. Here's the sign-up link ---> <https://runsignup.com/Race/MI/GrandRapids/WestSideLongestDayTrailRun>

### **HOT LUNCH:**

**HOT LUNCH ORDERING FOR THE FINAL QUARTER** (March 23-May 27) is open for ordering. Orders can be placed by using the following link: [HOT LUNCH ORDERING](#). All payments are due by tomorrow, Wednesday, March 11 by 3:00pm. We **WILL NOT BE ACCEPTING PAYMENTS BEYOND THE MARCH 11 DEADLINE.**

### **Wednesday, March 11, is Spaghetti Day.**

Elementary helpers: J. Augustyn, C. Evenhouse, M. Reyers, L. Brauning  
Middle School: J. Augustyn, C. Evenhouse

### **Friday, March 13, is Pizza Day**

Elementary helpers: B. Oosterheert, L. VanderMeulen, K. Kragt  
Middle School: B. Oosterheert

### **Monday, March 16, is Chili / Potato Day.**

Elementary helpers: J. Nyenhuis, R. Barker, K. Jasperse  
Middle School: J. Nyenhuis, J. Day

### **PLAYGROUND VOLUNTEERS:**

**Wed., 3/11** - R. Hendricks  
**Thur., 3/12** - E. Koopmans  
**Fri., 3/13** - S. Carroll  
**Mon., 3/16** - E. Geerlings  
**Tues., 3/17** - S. Groggel

## **T.R.I.P.**

Tuesday TRIP orders for this week are due today by 4 pm. Emails will be sent out when the orders are ready for pickup.

## **TECH BYTE**

[THE HOOP APP](#): Where Tinder for Teens Meets Snapchat With over 3 million downloads, Hoop is quickly becoming popular with kids. But is it safe? Here's what parents need to know.

## **OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**REMINDER:** The products from our Subs & Sweets Fundraiser will be delivered next Monday, March 16. Orders will be available for you to pick up at 2:30pm – 5:30pm. Be sure to make arrangements to pick up your order during that time. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer VanStrien (jennifer.vanstrien@gmail.com, 269-760-4450).

**FAMILIES, LET'S GET OUT TO PLAY AND MEET AT BLANDFORD NATURE CENTER** this Saturday, March 14 from 11am - 12pm. The Nature Nook playscape is a great place to let the kids be free to create wild adventures through natural play. Dress for the weather and prepare for some muddy boots. Check out the [Facebook event](#) for more details.

**TAKE A HIKE AND VENTURE OUT AND TRAVEL BACK IN TIME** to explore the daily life of a pioneer! Warm-up in the Blandford Nature Center Robinson-Khutic Log Cabin will be open for viewing this Saturday, March 14, 11 am- 2 pm. We've got some 3rd-grade students that will be volunteering as historical interpreters, bringing the past to life for visitors through imagination and play. All visitors are welcome. Here's the [Facebook event link](#) with more details.

**ULTIMATE FRISBEE:** Curious about the game? Learn the basics of the game and spend some time playing with your friends after school. Students in grades 4-8 are invited to an open play on March 18 - Ultimate Frisbee Intro and Play (3:30-4:30) + Parent Meeting (4:30-4:45). The season will officially begin after spring break.

**SPRING IS AROUND THE CORNER!!** We're collaborating with Blandford Farm to offer you some unique tomato plants (\$3 each) for your home gardens or containers. Check [out the link](#) and place your order by April 1 and we'll have the plants here during the week of May 18. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Janet Staal, [jstaal@wschristian.org](mailto:jstaal@wschristian.org). More details and order link: [Tomato Plant Order Form](#)

Don't have space to grow your own food, no worries! Visit our school garden weekly sales this summer or sign up for a Blandford Farm CSA share. CSA stands for Community Supported Agriculture and it's a system that connects consumers (you) to their farmers. You, the CSA member, get a share in the harvest. It ensures that you will have access to amazing food during the length of the growing season! For details and to sign-up: <https://bit.ly/2GM0jNf> Note: Spots are limited and the shares sold out last year.

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL INFORMATION**

**PENNIES FOR PATIENTS:** Student counsel kicks off our Pennies for Patients fundraiser March 9 where the middle school will be raising money for children with leukemia. Each day, we challenge middle school students to bring in that day's coin: Monday--pennies, Tuesday--nickles, Wednesday--dimes, Thursday--quarters, and Friday--\$1 bills. If the goal of \$750 is met by March 20, the homeroom who gave the most money will receive an Olive Garden lunch party. Look for the donation boxes in your homeroom on Monday!

**MIDDLE SCHOOL SKATING PARTY IS NEXT WEEK Tuesday, March 17!** All 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students are invited to a roller skating party on **Tuesday, March 17, from 7-9 p.m.** at Tarry Hall Roller Rink. Students will be transported by bus to and from the rink. Buses will leave WSCS at 6:40 p.m. SHARP and return by 9:20 p.m. Cost is \$5.00 per skater. Skates can be rented for an additional \$1 or you may bring your own.

**ATTENTION MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILIES!** Does your child have an interest in playing tennis this spring season? We're creating a combined Calvin Christian and West Side Christian Middle School tennis team. Contact Janet Staal, [Jstaal@wschristian.org](mailto:Jstaal@wschristian.org) for more details and to have your child's name added to the list.

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

**MISSIONARY TO GUATEMALA JOEL VANDYKE** will be speaking on March 15 at Westview CRC at the 9:54am service. Joel is a WSCS alumnus and was instrumental in organizing the partnership between WSCS and Kairos school. There will be a meet and greet/question time after the service as well.

**COME JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL GUATEMALAN DINNER** to celebrate the beautiful tapestry of grace that God has woven between Guatemala and West Michigan on Tuesday, March 17 at 6:15-8:00pm, Hillside Community Church; 1440 68th St. SE. It will be a time of great food, fellowship, stories and prayer.

**ALL BELONG (formerly known as CLC Network):** Elementary aged students are invited to a special sensory-friendly showing of *Inside Out* on March 21! This showing is designed as a sensory showtime in order to model ways to make social outings for kids more inclusive of persons with disabilities. RSVP's and more event information can be found at [allbelong.org/insideout](http://allbelong.org/insideout). Please contact Jonathan Helder, advancement director, with any questions at 616-855-3109 or [jhelder@allbelong.org](mailto:jhelder@allbelong.org). Thank you for helping to faithfully build belonging in community with us!

**WESTVIEW CRC INVITES YOU**, your friends, your relatives, your neighbor, your classmate, and your co-worker to this special night of Worship and Praise to God. Let's come together to sing without fear, and to worship without hesitation, as we encounter Jesus in our Hearts and Minds. ALL are Welcome to Westview's Night of Praise on Sunday, March 22 from 6:00pm - 7:00 pm at 2929 Leonard NW.

**BYRON CENTER CHRISTIAN WILL BE HOLDING THEIR 10TH ANNUAL 3 ON 3 TOURNAMENT** on Saturday, March 28th at South Christian High School. The event is for girls and boys grades 3rd-8th grade. Register online at: [www.BCCS.org](http://www.BCCS.org) under "Quick Links" drop down. Deadline to register is March 14th.

**NANA'S RUN:** Together with The ALS Association Michigan Chapter and Mercy Health, Cassandra and Sydney will host the seventh Nana's Run 5k on Saturday, May 2nd as a way to raise awareness and funds for ALS research and treatment so that they may help others who are affected by this dreadful disease. Here is the information for the race: <https://runsignup.com/Race/Mi/GrandRapids/NanasRun> If you would like to volunteer and support this organization, please email Mallory Timyan at [mallory@alsa-michigan.org](mailto:mallory@alsa-michigan.org).

**CAMP BELONG-** is a new inclusive summer camp hosted by Cascade Fellowship CRC. It is for those with special needs, their siblings, and invited peers. There will be on-site pampering for parents as well. The camp will be held June 29th- July 1st from 9-12. Volunteers are needed too! For more information or to register, go to [www.cascadefellowship.org/campbelong](http://www.cascadefellowship.org/campbelong).