Principal’s News

Quinn Williams, Principal

Spring is approaching and learning is in full swing here at Walsingham. As you may know, this is a time of year that students make the most academic and social learning improvements. It can be challenging at this time of year to keep our children focused on learning. What can you do to make school a top priority for your child? Keep these ideas in mind:

- Make attendance your number one priority. Let your child know that unless they are sick, they must attend school (and be on time.) Try to schedule appointments after school hours.
- Ask your child questions about what they learned today. Talk about school activities and projects. Make an effort to attend as many school events as you can attend.
- Reading Under the Stars is right around the corner! Remain positive. Try to set a positive example for your child, even when your own day has been challenging. If you show a positive attitude about your work, your child may feel better about their own.
- As we move closer to Spring with Academic Night and our Reading Under the Stars event, educators are often asked one important question, “What do you think I can do at home to help my child be more successful at school?” My answer is very simple, “Read with your child every day. Let them see you read. Listen to them read as well.” Before, during, and after the reading, encourage your child, begin a discussion about the story, ask questions, visualize the story, offer information, share personal thoughts, and connect the story to real-life situations. Make the time an enjoyable experience and let your child see that reading is fun. Celebrate this special time together!
- We are still in need of a PTA Board. Position descriptions were sent home with students. If you are looking for a way to get involved in the school, this is a perfect way to contribute and support our students.
- A Spring Challenge will be sent home with students. This time if they turn it in the first two days after Spring Break, they not only get a prize, but they get to attend a popsicle party with me! Let’s keep the learning going during our week away from school.
- Save the Date: Wednesday, April 26th is Academic Night. A flyer with specific times for the classrooms, chorus concert, SPCA Art Show, and School wide Enrichment Model (SEM) Showcase will be coming home soon.

Music Notes

Erin Kaminisky, Music Teacher

Soon we will be wrapping up the grand finale of our school year! Kindergarten is preparing for their graduation and performance. Our chorus is excited to perform a medley of hits from various decades on our curriculum night, April 26, and of course, Steve Turner of Giving Tree Music (also known as “The Drum Guy”) will be here on April 25 drumming with our entire school all day. It’s the best musical day of the year!

PE News

Coach Fisher, Coach Gaskill and Coach Huckno

Parents, as we are near the end of the third quarter, we want to review a few things.

First, we ask that students bring water bottles for PE. It would also be a good idea to put their name or initials on the water bottles. We are not always near a water fountain and students can become dehydrated. It is important to stay hydrated throughout the day.

Second, we have many students in grades K-5 who don’t know how to tie their shoelaces. This is an important skill for safety and independence. Please help your child practice tying their shoelaces and wearing them properly.

Third, we are currently doing our Fitnessgram fitness testing. Please make sure your children are wearing their school clothes and not wearing any extra gear that may affect their performance.

Fourth, Field Days will be held in April. The actual date is scheduled for Friday, April 14th. The rain date will be Friday, April 28th. More details to come.

Media Center and Tech Updates

Elizabeth Bonfanti, Media Specialist

The media center continues to be the place to be! We received and used our Raymond James grant to purchase 58 new books for our media center. Our media center now has a Portuguese section for our Portuguese speaking students. Staff and students also submitted titles and topics they wanted to see in our library, and we are looking forward to seeing their excitement when the books arrive!

In April, we will begin One School One Book program for all grade levels with the book Wonder by R.J. Palacio. Students will have the opportunity to enjoy this text as a class. Teachers will offer text-related activities and daily Kahoot games to supplement this powerful story.

Media center displays will feature Women’s History Month (March), St. Patrick’s Day, National Poetry Month (April), Celebrate Diversity Month (April), Earth Day, and subjects that tie into current classroom curriculum.
We hope everyone has a wonderful spring break. School is closed March 13-17.

Success in Art
Lisa Forero, Art Teacher

SPCA Tampa Bay Largo Campus Art Show 2023
Our annual Academic Night featuring our SPCA Art Show is around the corner.
Please come and support Walsingham and the SPCA!
The Art Show’s theme this year is animal rescue and Pets. Our students have been working hard creating dogs, cats, bunnies, birds and even hamsters! We have been learning about being responsible and taking care of our animals.
The artwork will be on display April 26th from 5:30pm-7:30pm in the Media Center.
See YOU there!
Any student who brings items off the SPCA wish list that will be send home to students, to Academic Night/Art Show/Spring concert, will receive 5 Paw Tickets!

Title 1 News
Tiffany Livingston, MTSS Coach

Mark your calendars, Walsingham Wildcats! Reading Under the Stars will return to Walsingham on Thursday March 9th from 5:30-7:00!
Please join us out on the PE courts and fields for a night that celebrates the love of reading under a sunset sky. All you will need is a blanket or folding chair, a flashlight, and your favorite books!

Title 1 will be providing:
- Pizza
- Renowned author Tori McGee
- Additional guest readers
- Build your Bookmark and Book Cover Station
- Strategies that help your students in Reading

Guidance
Maggie Brillant, Guidance Counselor

Here are some effective break activities to use with your children if they are ever overwhelmed, anxious, sad, or frustrated.
**Physical:** Going for a walk, Yoga, stretching, and having a snack.
**Mental:** Doing a puzzle, breathing exercises, reading a book, and journaling.
**Emotional:** Listening to music, meditating, coloring/drawing, and talking to others.