Welcome back Walsingham families. It was wonderful to see so many of our Walsingham Families at our Meet the Teacher/Open House! To achieve our vision at Walsingham Elementary, we will prepare our students to become independent learners with the desires, the skills, and the abilities necessary for lifelong learning. We were so excited to see all of our Wildcats for their first day of school. We have staff on duty outside starting at 7:10am. The gates open at the same time. Please stay with your child until the bell rings at 7:10am and there is supervision from our staff. Dismissal will begin at 1:45pm each day and you MUST have your car tag displayed in your windshield in order to keep our car line running fast. As part of our safety dismissal protocol, our students will only be released to family members with a car tag. Our business partners are Pick Your Part, Moe’s, and FLIP Tune into Reading. On our Moe’s Spirit Nights, between 5pm-8pm they are giving 25% of your order back to our school. Our first one is September 12th. Our Fall Cookie Dough Fundraiser begins on September 21st. These cookies are out of this world! This is an awesome way you can support our teachers AND your child can win some really awesome prizes. Packets will be sent home on this date. All payments will be online only. Stay tuned for more information on our Walsingham Facebook page. Thank you for your partnership as we work together to have an amazing 2023-2024 school year!

The Physical Education Department has some exciting news to share. As you may know, our students run a lap during their PE class. Last year, students were encouraged to complete that lap in under 3 minutes and most of our students in grades 2-5 can do this. Last year Jayce McCluster, a third grader at the time, made the school record and completed the lap in 1 minute 03 seconds. As a fourth grader, he broke his record twice this year in August. First, he completed it in 60 seconds flat and the next day he completed it in 59 seconds. Way to go, Jayce!

Welcome back, Wildcats! I am so excited to see and meet all of you! Chorus has already begun, so if your 4th or 5th grader would like to sign up for chorus, please let me know so I can get a permission slip to you. They will showcase three concerts this year. In September, our fifth graders have the opportunity to attend a Florida Orchestra concert at the Mahaffey Theater, so make sure to get those permission slips signed and sent back to school. Kindergarten, first, and second grades have already started studying the steady beat and how beats are grouped in music. Third and fourth graders have begun studying rhythms. We are so excited for this school year!

We are rolling out iPads and laptops for all students in kindergarten through fifth grade. All 2nd–5th grade students have attended a laptop orientation where we discussed care and basic troubleshooting for their assigned laptop. Third, fourth, and fifth grade students have the opportunity to take their laptop home for schoolwork if they have their Technology Equipment Acceptance and Responsibility form completed via the student forms on Focus. Please contact Ms. Bonfanti with any questions regarding your child’s device take-home status. If your child has permissions, please make sure the device is returning with them to school each day.

We are anticipating our brand-new media center furniture to be delivered soon! Once we receive our new shelves, tables, chairs, comfortable seating areas, circulation desk, and makerspace table, we will set up our media center and open for lessons and check-outs. Stay tuned for more information about our Library Launch!

Welcome back, Walsingham Elementary is to prepare our students to become independent learners with the desires, the skills, and the abilities necessary for lifelong learning.
September 8th. All students will attempt the skills and learn the fitness concepts.

Students in grades 2-5 will have the opportunity to participate in a Flag Football Clinic put on by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers organization on October 23rd. For students to participate, they must return the permission form and they must exhibit good behavior in PE class up to that date. The Buccaneers must have the paper form signed and returned, parent phone calls giving permission will not be accepted. If you want your child to participate in this experience, please return the forms ASAP. PE will collect the forms from the classroom teachers on October 2nd so please turn them in before then.

Water Bottles: With the extreme heat, please remember to send in water bottles with your children. It’s also helpful if their names are labeled on the bottles. Many look alike and they get confused as to which water bottle is theirs.

Shoelaces: We have many students who do not know how to tie their shoelaces. This is a safety concern in PE class. Some students have run right out of their sneakers because they weren’t tied. This is not something limited to the younger grade levels. We have students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th who have difficulty with this life skill. There are many videos on YouTube that teach this skill. If your child wears shoes with laces and they can’t tie them, please put aside some time each day to have them learn and practice this life skill. There are sneakers that don’t require laces to be tied and they still fit firmly to give support. We look forward to a wonderful year with your Wildcat!

Succes in Art
Lisa Forero, Art Teacher

“Take a drive anywhere in Florida and your eyes take in a plethora of various license plate designs. Florida offers over 125 different designs for license tags, the second highest of any state in the nation.”

Who is participating? Walsingham Wildcats 5th Graders are participating in this years Kids Tag Art!

What is Kids Tag Art? An elementary curriculum that teaches children how art is used in commerce. Children create their own unique vanity tag that parents or anyone from the community can purchase for their cars from kidstagartpinellas.org. All funds raised directly support arts education in Pinellas County. One dollar from the sale for each tag will benefit the St. Petersburg College Foundation’s “I AM 4 ART, U CAN B 2” Scholarship fund. The remaining proceeds from tag sales and community sponsorships will be given to the Pinellas County Schools Visual Arts Department to be used exclusively as supplement funding for art enrichment programs and supplies for participation schools. I am excited to see all the different designs our Wildcats will come up with!

Title 1 News
Tiffany Livingston, MTSS Coach

Welcome to the new school year! Here at Walsingham, it is so important that families and schools work together to help students achieve high academic standards. In order to help us reach this goal, we have created a compact between teachers, students, and parents. The compact is our agreement listing our roles and responsibilities that we, as partners, will carry out to support student success in school and life. These compacts will be coming home within the next few weeks. Please take a moment to read them over with your child, sign them, and return them to your teacher. Once all teachers, parents, and students have signed the compact, a copy will be given to you to keep at home.

Thank you for those families who were able to attend the Open House and Annual Title 1 meeting. For those who have missed the meeting please check out our school website. You will have access to the PowerPoint filled with all the information about what being a Title 1 school means, and how Walsingham is utilizing its Title 1 funds.

Thank you for taking the time to review both the compact and the PowerPoint. By working together, we can all support our students to achieve their highest level.

Counselor Corner
Maggie Bright, Guidance Counselor

For the month of August, the character trait is respect. Treating yourself and others with courtesy and consideration. The character trait word for the month of September is responsibility. Doing your best and taking ownership for your words and actions. A resource link for the months of August and September is The Tampa Bay Network to end hunger. This resource offers a variety of food resources.

https://networktoendhunger.org/pinellas-programs