



BULLETIN

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*"How priceless is your unfailing love!
Both high and low among men find refuge in the shadow of your wings."
Psalm 36:7*

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*"For God so loved
the world that
he gave his one
and only Son,
that whoever
believes in him
shall not perish
but have eternal
life. For God did
not send his Son
into the world
to condemn the
world, but to
save the world
through him.*

John 3:16,17

Dear Families and Friends of WBCA:

As many of you know, West Bay Christian Academy is in the process of renewing its ten year accreditation, which is extremely important for us if we are to take seriously our mission of being academically excellent. Accreditation involves a rigorous self evaluation that requires at least a year to complete and culminates with a 3½ day visit from an evaluation team in the Spring of 2011. This is now the third accreditation cycle for West Bay, which was the first school in Rhode Island to be accredited by both the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) and Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). We look forward to participating in this assessment once again.

Accreditation has two interrelated purposes—school improvement and quality assurance. These are addressed in a three-phase process of (1) self-study, (2) visiting committee evaluation, and (3) follow-up. In short, NEASC provides a well-defined set of Standards of Accreditation against which we measure ourselves, and then a visiting team of professionals from across New England reviews our self-study to determine compliance with these guidelines.

We have begun the self-study process, which includes gathering information from a broad range of West Bay constituents. Currently, we have adapted surveys from NEASC to obtain information from four important groups: (1) parents, (2) alumni, (3) students, and (4) teachers/staff. The validity of our self-study is based on the accuracy and breadth of the information that we collect from our community. The parent survey is, therefore, extremely important, and *we are asking every parent to participate* in this critical, information-gathering step in our re-accreditation process. You can find the survey on-line at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JD6GHRQ>, or you can go to our website and click on the link to the "Parent Survey". If you do not have access to the internet, we will be happy to mail you a printed copy of the survey. Please complete the survey by March 18.

We will also ask our middle school students to participate in the survey while in school.

In addition to completing the "Parent Survey", I would like to invite any of you to participate on a self-study committee in an area of your interest: Mission, Governance, Early Childhood, Faculty, Administration, Evaluation and Assessment, Health and Safety, Communication, or Infrastructure. This involves meeting with a small group of teachers, parents, and/or Board members to evaluate one of these areas based on the Standard's performance indicators. Please let me know of your interest and thank you very much for your help.

Rick Clarkson
Headmaster

From the Athletic Office

The Middle School Girls and Boys Basketball teams competed in the Rocky Hill/Pennfield **Small School Basketball Tournament** this past week. The Boys defeated their host, Rocky Hill, for 3rd place, and the Girls travelled to Pennfield and defeated them for the championship. The plaques are on display for all to see at the Front Desk. Congratulations for a great season and thank you for representing West Bay so well!!!

Basketball uniforms should be washed and returned to Mrs. DeMario by Thursday, March 18th.

We are currently seeking Head Coaches and Assistant **Coaches for Girls and Boys Track and Field** (spring). The season will tentatively run from March 24th- May 8th. There are modest coaching stipends for both Head and Assistant coaches. Coaching applications can be picked up in the Athletic Office or downloaded from the website (under Employment Opportunities). Questions can be directed to Mrs. DeMario.

The K-5th PE classes participated in a week long **Winter Olympics** prior to Winter Break. The students were split up into 11 different countries and competed in many different events: luge, curling, bobsled, slalom, moguls, and ski jump. Great job to all of the students who participated! Thank you to all the parents and teachers who helped during the events.

Middle School News

Attn Parents! Your Middle School students can **make a movie** this summer with the Daylight Films crew (parents of Alex, Grade 1 and Isabella, Preschool) & the YMCA in North Kingstown. The filming will take place August 16 - 20. Sign up at the YMCA in NK on Post Rd.

Miss Melissa Jordan, Middle School Science teacher, is looking for volunteers to be **Science Fair judges**. The Science Fair will be held at WBCA on Wednesday, May 12, 3:00--5:30. Judges will be using a new and user-friendly judging rubric. If you are interested or want to know more, please contact Miss Jordan at mjordan@wbca.info or call the school at (401) 884-3600, ext. 136. Please remember that if you are a parent of a WBCA student, participating as a judge will count as volunteer hours!

Doughboy Contest Results in a Casual Day – TUESDAY, MARCH 16th

The results of the “2010 Race to Fill the Pillsbury Doughboy” are in - the school collected \$320 worth of box tops in the four-week contest!!! **Dr. Clarkson has declared the contest a success and has awarded the school a Casual Day on Tuesday, March 16th.** Thanks to everyone for contributing. We have raised \$585 so far this school year which is 70% of our goal. I am sure we can exceed our goal of \$825 by June. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, March 16th and enjoy your reward for all your effort in making the contest a success.

Getting to Know the Extended Day Staff

Meet Jill Ritacco... “Hello, my name is Jill Ritacco (Mrs. Jill). I will be the new Extended Day Coordinator with Mrs. Kearney. I am super excited to work with your children and anticipate all the blessings that will come working here at WBCA. Mrs. Gibson has been great “showing me the ropes.”

A bit about myself - I just had a beautiful baby boy on November 19th. His name is Grey and looks just like his Daddy. I currently attend Christ Church and am involved with the Mission Team, Passages (women’s study), and I work in the nursery. I graduated from Colorado State University with a BFA degree in print making and painting. I have a huge passion for art! I also worked at Camp Keswick for a summer, which gave me my love for kids. I apologize in advance if I forget you or our child’s name. Please be patient - learning names is one of my top goals.

We have a cell phone on ONLY during Extended Day, if you need to get a hold of us - **206-9676**. If you need to leave a message in regards to someone else picking up your child or a situation you want to discuss, you can call the Front Desk - 884-3600 - and they will give me the message when I get in.

Thanks for all your warm welcomes!”

Meet Maureen Kearney.... Maureen Kearney, our new Assistant to the Coordinator for Extended Day at WBCA, has lived in Rhode Island for almost four years. Prior to that, she and her family lived in New York City, New Jersey, Illinois, and Florida. Maureen is married to Joe and has a son and daughter in college. She has 12 years of teaching experience in private and public education, as well as homeschooling her children from Kindergarten through 10th Grade. Maureen attends Stony Lane Baptist Church and is actively involved with URI Master Gardeners Association and the Plum Beach Garden Club. She is looking forward to getting to know the children and parents of West Bay.

From the PVB

“What a great meeting we had today! Our new PVB president is Christine Newton (mom to Mycarthy-3rd & Michael-1st) Congratulations Christine!! I would like to welcome Tracie DelSesto (mom to Mia-2nd) as the Co-President, Tracy Moran (mom to Dylan-5th & Katie-1st) as the Secretary, Kimberly Reid (mom to Sebastian-K) as the Community Relations Coordinator and Jen Smith (mom to Allie-2nd) as the Volunteer Coordinator. And welcoming back: Jenn Pezza as Treasurer (mom to Zach-4th, Tyler-1st, Jake- Preschool), Melyssa Ricci (mom to Myranda-4th) as Head Room parent and Stephanie Paziienza (mom to Paul-2nd) as Teacher Support Coordinator. **Wow - What a fantastic group we have going into the 2010-2011 school year!!**

It has been a pleasure and an honor being the president the last couple of years and I am looking forward to Chairing the Walk-a-Thon in the fall.

The next PVB meeting is Wednesday, April 7th at 3:15 pm - school location to be announced. During this meeting, we will be handing off our positions to the new board. I would suggest to the old board members to contact your replacements and hand off anything they will need for their new position and follow up with them. A lot of this is going to be learning and growing as the school year ends. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 667-2550 or e-mail me. Congratulations!!”

Tina Richter
2009-10 PVB President

Happy March Birthdays!



Isabella Wilkinson	Preschool	March 1
Ryan Kornacki	Preschool	March 2
Elizabeth Nooney	Grade 5	March 2
Taylor Owen	Grade 8	March 6
Zachary Lindo	Grade 3	March 7
Grace Mastroianni	Grade 4	March 8
Mycka Leavitt	Kindergarten	March 11
Brandon Serpa	Grade 4	March 11
Nicolo Mega	Grade 3	March 13
Jaden Merola	Preschool	March 25
Michaela Ringeling	Grade 2	March 28
Kate McCormack	Grade 7	March 31

Mark Your Calendar

Friday, March 12	Drama Club, 3:15 - 5:30 pm	Wednesday, March 24	Grade 3 Field Trip
	Parent's Night Out, 6 - 9:30 pm		Brownie Troop #841 Meeting
Tuesday, March 16	Casual Day	Thursday, March 25	Bulletin
			Math Olympics
Thursday, March 18	Report Cards		
Friday, March 19	NO SCHOOL		
Saturday, March 20	K Screening, 9 am - 1 pm		
March 22 - 26	Teacher Appreciation Week		