

*"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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"This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."

*1John 4:9,10*

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Dear Families and Friends of West Bay:

Last week I was away on an evaluation team at a Christian School in Connecticut that was applying for accreditation through the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). West Bay Christian Academy is also accredited by NEASC, and we are scheduled to have a team evaluate us in the spring of 2011. Mrs. Cole convinced me that my participation on the committee would afford me the opportunity to become very familiar with the accreditation process, and help me gain perspective on some of the areas that West Bay should be addressing. (I hate it when Mrs. Cole is right!)

School accreditation is a very important process for independent schools, as it requires a school to evaluate itself against best-practice standards and to go through peer review. The two goals of accreditation are to ensure quality control and to enhance school improvement. While the process is extremely rigorous, it is also quite simple. That is, the school rates *itself* on fifteen standards and then a group of peers visits the schools and evaluates the self-study. First, the minimal standards must be "passed", and then the question becomes one of school improvement—what can we do to be better?

NEASC suggests that schools begin the self-study approximately 18 months prior to their scheduled visit, so West Bay is just now beginning that process. The strength of the self-study is to have a wide and representative cross section of the school community participate in contributing to the study. In the next several months, you will be asked to share your thoughts about West Bay in various surveys, discussion groups, etc., as we collect data for the self study. As the evaluation date gets closer, we will be looking for volunteers to help with a variety of activities related to the evaluation team's visit.

Last week I was impressed with the commitment that the school I visited made to this process. Their self-study was broad-based and thorough, AND they began addressing their concerns long before our evaluation team arrived. It is my intention that West Bay will do the same. We have already gone through this process twice in the last twenty years, so I do not expect that we will fail any of the standards; however, our goal is continued school improvement and this requires a united effort on the part of the entire West Bay community. We look forward to this important process, which will help us realize our mission of being a distinctively Christian school that strives for academically excellence.

*Rick Clarkson*

## Veterans Day Parade

The North Kingstown Veterans Day Parade is next Wednesday, November 11th. It is an excellent opportunity for the school to participate in a community event and demonstrate the WBCA spirit. We will meet at Wilson Park at 9 am and the parade will start at 10 am. The parade route follows West Main Street to Brown Street and Boston Neck Road and concludes at North Kingstown High School. Students should dress in school uniforms and adults should dress in school colors (navy, khaki, and white). Dress for the weather and bring your school spirit! For more information, please contact Karen Lokey (mother of Emma, Grade 3, and Owen, K) at 295-9344.



## Garden

Since Spring 2008, WBCA's Brownie Troop #841 and their classes have planted and cared for a vegetable garden on the grounds at West Bay. They prepared the garden, planted seeds and seedlings, watered, weeded, and harvested. This year, we were able to donate several bags of beans, peas, tomatoes, yellow squash, and peppers to the North Kingstown Food Pantry. The classes had fun, learned a lot, and made a positive impact on our community. Thanks to the students, teachers, and parent volunteers who made this possible.

## Volunteer Opportunity

Mr. Topper Jones (father of Samantha, Grade 5) is a member of the WBCA Board of Trustees, and has recently taken much of the responsibility for facilities management from Mrs. Cole and Dr. Clarkson. There are still some odd jobs that he is not able to get to during his office hours (Monday and Thursday mornings), so we are looking for a parent handyman. Mrs. Cole and the Front Desk will keep a list of what needs to be done and the volunteer (s) could come in to the school at their convenience - even after hours or on the weekends. If you are a fan of simple DIY projects, please contact the school to offer your services.

## A+Bonus Bucks by Stop & Shop

It is simple to register your Stop & Shop card - Go to [www.stopandshop.com/aplus](http://www.stopandshop.com/aplus) and select West Bay Christian Academy (ID# - 07212). Please do this soon to start earning for West Bay!!!



## Operation Christmas Child Service Project by Student Council

Many boys and girls have never received a Christmas present. By packing a box full of small toys, school supplies, T-shirts, and toiletries, you could make a difference in a child's life. Operation Christmas Child sends the filled boxes to children between the ages of two and fourteen who are living in poverty around the world. The children who receive the boxes also receive a New Testament in their language. **The empty boxes and instructions for packing are available in Mrs. Cole's office at school.** Packed boxes must be brought to school by November 20<sup>th</sup>. Any questions, contact Maike Morrison (Grade 6) at 884-5430. Thank you for participating!!! - The Student Council

## Picture Retake Day

*Picture Retake Day has been set for Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>.* Students absent on the original day in September, those who did not hand in an order form that day but now want to have another picture taken to place an order, and those students who return their original picture package since it was not acceptable, will have their picture taken by Lifetouch.

Dress for Picture Retake Day is Chapel uniform, everyday uniform, or "Dress Up Day" for those students having their picture taken. Students in Mrs. Lospaluto's Kindergarten class and Grades 6, 7B, and 8A have PE on Friday, so they need to wear their gym pants and what they wish to be photographed in from the waist up, and bring their gym t-shirt and sweatshirt to change into afterwards.

If your child was photographed back in September, but you were unhappy with the picture, please return the picture package to school BUT KEEP THE CLASS COMPOSITE. This will be our way of knowing that you wish to have your child photographed again. If your child was absent on Picture Day, or they did not submit an order that day, you should request that the school send you a payment envelope. RETURN THE ENVELOPE TO SCHOOL BEFORE NOVEMBER 20<sup>th</sup> so that we can schedule your child for their picture retake. Any questions, please contact Mrs. Cole at 884-3600 or ccole@wbca.info.

## Visiting the Land of Sheba

For a month this summer I had an amazing opportunity to travel with medical personnel to the country of Yemen, in the Middle East. Located at the southern border of Saudi Arabia, and just across the Bay of Aden, from Somalia, sits the world's poorest Arabic country, Yemen. My medical and teacher training equipped me for teaching a basic health course through English conversation to pre-clinical medical students at a local medical college. These Yemini students' greatest desire is to have a strong, healthy country and they are studying to become doctors to help this happen. Through our classes I was able to get to know about them and their culture and they in turn wanted to know about me, my faith, family, job, and life in America.

While I was there I lived as a Yemini, dressing in the "balto" a long sleeve, full-length black dress and "hijab" a headscarf that only allowed my face to show. The temperatures neared 100 degrees each day and the constant power outages stopped any relief that our few fans would bring. We cooked thoroughly washed foods in our apartment and only drank bottled water. As you know there is very little water in the desert so we had to be careful to conserve as much as possible. We traveled on the local transportation called "dababs", which are smelly Toyota mini-vans with the sliding door kept opened. We paid just 10 cents for the ride but shared it with 14 or 15 others! The trips were always eventful, as men are not allowed to sit next to women so we were always rearranging the seating!

I have always known that, we, living here in the United States are a privileged people. Things we consider "bare necessities" are privileges or extravagances there. Beyond the extreme poverty and the limitations associated with that, the contrast that stood out the most to me was the freedoms that I have here. As an American woman I can choose where I live, what I wear, and if I will marry or not, but most importantly I can freely choose to put my faith in Jesus. A Yemini Muslim does not have this choice but could be subject to loss of employment, imprisonment, and death if their conversion is found out.

So what can you do to help the warm, friendly, needy people Yemen? Pray! Pray for their physical needs but most importantly pray for them to have spiritual freedom!

Salaam! (Peace)

Mrs. Toni Ford (mother of Danielle Andrade, Class of 2006 and Ashley, Class of 2008)

## Mark Your Calendar

For more/updated information, visit [www.westbaychristianacademy.com](http://www.westbaychristianacademy.com)

Friday, November 6th  
NO SCHOOL  
ACSI Teacher Convention

Friday, November 13th  
Submission deadline for  
November 19<sup>th</sup> Bulletin

Sunday, November 8th  
Admission Open House, 1-4 pm

Monday, November 16th  
Board of Trustees Meeting

Wednesday, November 11th  
NO SCHOOL- Veterans Day

Wednesday, November 18th  
Girl Scout Troup #841 Meeting

Thursday, November 12th  
Prayer Groups, 8:30-8:45 am

## Happy November Birthdays



Chanel Khoury	Gr. 6	11/4
Cein Maguire	Preschool	11/4
Chad Sawyer	Gr. 8	11/5
Mrs. Dowiot	Art	11/6
Lauren Medeiros	Gr. 1	11/7
Laila Ghabrial	Gr. 1	11/10
Melia Freitas	Gr. 3	11/14
Mikayla Ruffner	Gr. 6	11/14
Nickolas Masi	Gr. 5	11/15
Tyler Turgeon	Gr. 3	11/16
Amanda Wilson	Gr. 8	11/16
Mrs. Logan	Gr. 3	11/18
Kamryn Rollins	Preschool	11/22
Reed Worthington	Gr. 7	11/23
Maximilian Imschweiler	Preschool	11/26

## Snack Shack is coming back!!!

Beginning Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade will be sponsoring the "Snack Shack" each day at lunch. Rather than a traveling cart, going from classroom to classroom, the cart will be full of pre-packaged goodies and stationed at the milk refrigerator in the front lobby. All choices are 50 cents. Each teacher will determine when their class will be able to visit the Snack Shack.