



BULLETIN

September 10, 2009
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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*

Dear Parents of WBCA Students and Friends of the Academy:

WELCOME BACK or WELCOME – whichever the case may be. We are excited to be starting our new school year here at West Bay Christian Academy after such a busy summer. Obviously our big news is the completion of our new Early Childhood wing. This badly needed addition has given us six brand new classrooms, as well as a spacious and attractive reception area, along with office and conference space. There is a seamless flow from the older wings to the new, giving us a facility that both separates the various age levels while uniting the entire campus. This is the result of a huge effort on the part of many dedicated members of the West Bay community, for whom I am extremely grateful and to whom I extend a most sincere appreciation on behalf of all of us.

The other big news this fall is the opening of our preschool. After a great deal of planning, again by many volunteer parents and West Bay supporters, Director Mrs. Rachael Cannistraci and her excellent staff Mrs. Sue Castillo, Mrs. Pat McCoy, and Mrs. Amy Wilkinson, began school on September 1st with a full house and a great deal of creativity and enthusiasm.

We also opened a second 2nd grade class, which now gives us two classes at each grade from Kindergarten through Grade 5. While this meets our strategic plan goal, we now have more room for students in each grade and are thankful for our parent body's willingness to spread the word about West Bay.

For those of you who are new to the West Bay community, our prayer is that you find WBCA to be a caring, nurturing, and challenging environment, where together we contribute to the positive development of your children. The faculty and staff at West Bay work very hard at finding the balance necessary to meet our student's academic, emotional, physical, and spiritual needs, and we welcome the opportunity to be partners with every family, as together we strive to provide a program that is "distinctively Christian, academically excellent."

May God grant us a successful and productive year at WBCA.

Rick Clarkson
Headmaster

"...because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions - it is by grace you have been saved. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast."
Ephesians 2:4,5,8,9

Introducing the New WBCA Teachers

The new Physical Education Teacher/Athletic Director is **Mrs. Amanda Dennis**. She has a BA in Bible from Lancaster Bible College and a Masters degree in Sports Management from Millersville University. Mrs. Dennis has played basketball since she was 9 years old and all the way through college. The highlight was when her college team won the regions and spent a week in Missouri for the national tournament. She worked in Guam for three years as a PE Teacher/AD. While in Guam, she met her husband Kevin, who was stationed there with the Navy. Mr. Dennis is now stationed at the New London, CT submarine base. Together, they like to scuba dive, hike, and ride Kevin's motorcycle, and they have a kitten, Pia.

Though not a stranger to West Bay, one of the new Fifth Grade teachers this year is **Mrs. Val Freitas**. To the delight of many, she is back and has reinstated her famous "dot auction"! Mrs. Freitas began her teaching career in Mexico, where she taught at a missionary school for a year. She has been associated with WBCA since 1987, teaching 4th grade for 11 years, before she and her husband Dan had Melia, Grade 3, and Matthew, Kindergarten. Mrs. Freitas recently served on the Board of Trustees, but decided that returning to teaching would allow her to sing her goofy songs to a larger, and hopefully more appreciative, audience.

The second Grade 2 teacher this year is **Mrs. Danielle Foreman**. Mrs. Foreman was born in Rhode Island, but left the Ocean State to attend Liberty University in VA. She most recently taught in Tennessee, at Tri-Cities Christian School. After four years there, she, her husband Paul, and sons Caleb (Kindergarten) and Ethan (Preschool) decided to relocate back to RI. They presently live in North Providence. Mrs. Foreman enjoys scrapbooking when she has the time, reading historical fiction, and is a huge fan of Sharpie markers.

Our new Kindergarten teacher is a character - literally. In addition to teaching, **Mrs. Nancy Koss** does children's entertainment as a clown or as Mother Goose. She and her husband Gary have two children - Andrew, 16 and Amibeth, 14. Before West Bay, Mrs. Koss taught at Buttonwoods School for Young Children. In her free time, she likes spinning and zumba, and enjoys reading Christian fiction. Currently her favorite author is Karen Kingsbury - she has read 17 of her books since Christmas.

Miss Kaela Neale is the other Grade 5 teacher. Miss Neale is a recent graduate of Stonehill College in Easton, MA, where she studied English and Elementary Education. She was a member of the English Society and the Campus Christian Fellowship. If you see her hopping in the hallways, it may be because she spent a college semester in Australia. Miss Neale is originally from Warwick, RI, and she enjoys reading, creative writing, and sightseeing. Consider this fair warning ... she is has a black belt in Kempo Karate!

Bulletin Schedule

The Bulletin will be published and distributed twice a month, and is designed to keep parents and friends of the Academy informed of activities and events. A hardcopy will be sent home with the youngest sibling of a family. A PDF version will be e-mailed to all addresses on the school e-mail list, and it will also be posted on the WBCA website (www.westbaychristianacademy.com).

There will be a team putting together the *Bulletin* this year:

- Mrs. Cole and Mrs. McCormack will accept and gather material.
- Mrs. Chris Kralicky (mother of Joey, Grade 7, Laura, Grade 4, and Evan, Grade 1) will be highlighting classroom events and student accomplishments.
- Mrs. Deb Garneau (mother of Zachary, Grade 3 and Ethan, Preschool) will serve as the technical editor.

We would love your feedback and ideas to make the *Bulletin* an effective source of information.

New School Website

Have you visited the school's website? West Bay Christian Academy's website has recently undergone a facelift. There is a wealth of information that can be found there, from drop off procedures to upcoming events. Every week new items are being posted. Visit www.westbaychristianacademy.com for the latest West Bay news!

A big thank you to Mrs. Jenna Steele (mother of Kirk, Grade 4 and Matthew, Kindergarten) for all the work she has done to revamp and update the site.

From the Community

A Women's Bible Study - Join us for Priscilla Shirer's latest study, "One in a Million: Journey to Your Promised Land" on Wednesday mornings, 9:30-11:30 am at Christ Church (1025 Main Street, East Greenwich). The DVD study starts September 23rd. Childcare is provided. Contact Mrs. Mary Morrison (mother of Maike, Grade 6 and Garret, Grade 3) with questions or to register at: wgarth123@aol.com or 884-5430. Expect to see God move in miraculous ways in your everyday existence.

From the Moms In Touch Group

Come and pray with us! How can we pray for you?

Moms In Touch will be meeting Thursday mornings at school starting September 17th. We will be meeting in Dr. Clarkson's former office, next to the Library, from 8:20-9:20am to pray for our children and for WBCA. We would love to pray for you! Prayer requests can be put in a labeled box near the Front Desk or communicated by e-mail or phone. Prayer requests are confidential. Contact Mrs. Mary Morrison for more information or to communicate prayer requests at wgarth123@aol.com or 884-5430.

Extended Day Assistant Position

We are in need of an Assistant to our Extended Day Coordinator, Mrs. Margo Gibson (mother of Tim, Grade 8 and Joanna, Grade 5). Extended Day is for students in Kindergarten through Grade 8, with Preschool having a separate after-school care. This paid position is for three afternoons a week, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, from 3:00 to 6:00 pm. Please contact Mrs. Cole, 884-3600, ext. 121, if you are interested.

Sponsored by the Parent Volunteer Body (PVB)

What: Bingo and Ice Cream Social Night

When: Friday, September 18th, 7 pm

Where: WBCA Gym

Who: All West Bay students and their families

Cost: 1 candy bar per person

Why: Fun and Fellowship!!!!

Happy September Birthdays

Nicholas Gianferante	9/2	Gr. 5
Alexandra Lindo	9/3	Gr. 6
William (Liam) McGowen	9/5	Gr. K
Matthew Burnett	9/6	Gr. 1
Olivia Palmisano	9/6	Gr. 4
Joshua Plante	9/6	Gr. 1
Emma Ringeling	9/8	Preschool
Lydia Rousseau	9/8	Gr. 3
Sarah Kane	9/9	Gr. 3
Caleb King	9/9	Gr. 6
Ryan Maciel	9/9	Gr. 4
Dr. Clarkson	9/11	Headmaster
Sebastian Reid	9/11	Gr. K
Ethan Shellman	9/12	Gr. K
Kirk Steele	9/12	Gr. 4
Kenneth Chaffey	9/16	Gr. 7
Benjamin Sawyer	9/17	Gr. 3
Jessie Huang	9/18	Gr. 5
Tyler Pezza	9/18	Gr. 1
Connor Priest	9/19	Gr. 2
Caroline Connell	9/22	Gr. K
Brady Richter	9/22	Gr. 4
MacKenzie Stach	9/22	Gr. 2
Madeline Rousseau	9/27	Gr. 8
Sean O'Grady	9/28	Gr. 3

