

MARCH 2025

# NEWSLETTER



## Welcome to Grace Christian Academy!

### School Contact

13000 Zekiah Dr  
Waldorf, MD 20601

(301) 645-0406

Office Hours: 7:30-4:00 M-F



### Important Dates:

- 3/5 - HALF DAY for students, NO AFTERCARE
- 3/7 - Open Enrollment Begins!
- 3/10 - 3/14 - Scholastic Book Fair
- 3/14 - MS Lock In
- 3/17 - K-2nd Parent Coffees
- 3/19 - 3rd-5th Parent Coffees
- 3/20 - 6th-8th Parent Coffees
- **3/20 - APRIL LUNCH FORMS DUE**
- 3/20 - TAG Day, End of Q3
- 3/21 - HALF DAY for students
- 3/25 - Maryland Day
- 3/28 - 3/21 - NO SCHOOL for Quarter Break

Lunch Forms Found [HERE!](#)

### Message From the Office



## Parent Coffees!

With all of the talk about re-enrollment, parents are starting to have a lot of questions about next school year. **Parent coffees will happen again this school year!** These coffees are an introduction the next grade level for your student. We will talk about topics such as possible curriculum, differences in standards and practices, expectations, etc. This is not a Q&A about the current school year but rather a chance to receive insight for what will come in the Fall. The coffee sessions will be during the school day. We know this may be difficult for some parents to attend so the presentation used for discussion will be sent out. If there are any topics or questions you have for the following school year, feel free to email me and I will try my best to have answers at the coffee.

**Dates: 3/17, 3/19, 3/20 Times: TBA**

Megan Schaniel, Director of Education  
[Megan.schaniel@graceknights.org](mailto:Megan.schaniel@graceknights.org)



# 2025-2026 ENROLLMENT NOW OPEN!

*New families can now enroll for the  
2025-2026 school year!  
Enroll now to secure your spot in the  
Fall. Spots will not be held.*

**RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW!**

**301-645-0406**

**[graceknights.org/admissions](https://graceknights.org/admissions)**



## Note From the Nurse:

[kristin.barber@graceknights.org](mailto:kristin.barber@graceknights.org)

[healthnotes@graceknights.org](mailto:healthnotes@graceknights.org)

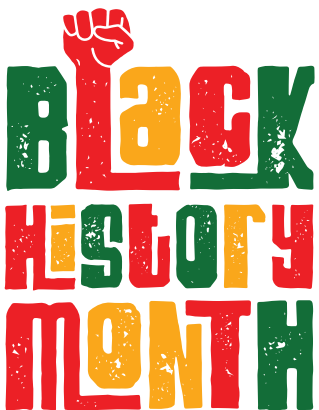


Looking ahead... If your student is entering the following grades next school year, please consider making appointments soon to ensure they are up to date on the following vaccines. You will receive emails if your student has not already received the vaccines required.

- 7th Grade (must be 11 yrs old to receive): Meningococcal, Tdap
- Kinder: Second dose of MMR & Varicella
- Pre-K3 & Pre-K4: DTaP/DTP/DT (4 Doses) Polio (3 Doses) Hib (at least 1 dose given after 10 mos of age) MMR (at least 1 dose) Varicella (at least 1 dose) Hepatitis B (3 doses) PCV (1 dose). If your child turns 5 within the school year, the second MMR dose is required within 20 days of their birthdate.

Is your child out of school for any reason? Please email

[healthnotes@graceknights.org](mailto:healthnotes@graceknights.org)



GCA Symphony, Choir and Drama students did a phenomenal job at our school-wide Black History Month Assembly!! Huge thank you to Coach Johnson, Mr. Anderson and Ms. Spencer for organizing this event for our students!

This month all students participated in a Black History Month Writing Contest! The assignment looked different based on the grade level. Each homeroom teacher has chosen 1st and 2nd place winners and they will be announced next week! These students will receive a free TAG day, an ice cream and their work showcased on social media!



## New family

### Referral Program!

We have an Open House on the first Saturday of every month! Please consider sharing these events on Facebook! Do you know about our New Family Referral Program? You have an opportunity to earn up to \$1,500 towards your Facts account! Click [HERE](#) to read more.



## Summer Camp Workers

[michelle.goodson@graceknights.org](mailto:michelle.goodson@graceknights.org)

We are looking for summer camp workers who are at least 16 years old and love kids! Please reach out to our Summer Camp Director, Michelle Goodson for more info!

## GCA Athletics

[john.somerville@graceknights.org](mailto:john.somerville@graceknights.org)  
[nina.johnson2@graceknights.org](mailto:nina.johnson2@graceknights.org)

- *Flag Football Tryouts will begin on March 10th!*
- *Mr. Somerville and Coach Johnson will send out information soon about a Spring Sports Parent Meeting.*
- *More information to come about Track and Field.*

## GO KNIGHTS!

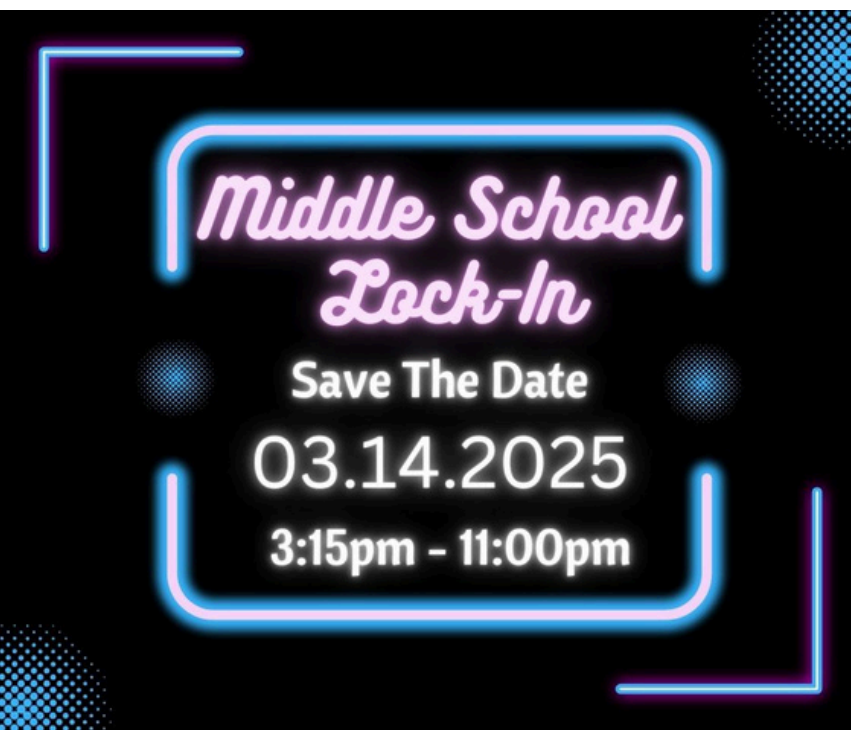
# SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR



## March 21st - HALF DAY



Due to the amount of snow days, in order to be in compliance with the amount of school days we must have in a school year, students will now have a HALF DAY with **NO AFTERCARE** on Friday, March 21st.



## Uniform Reminders!

We are still seeing many students in polo shirts that do not have the GCA logo. Please see the main office for info on how to add the logo to polo shirts you already own or purchase shirts that will come with the logo. We also see a lot of non-uniform sweatshirts and hoodies and non-uniform pants. Please see the uniform page below for examples of approved GCA uniforms.



# PREK-6TH GRADE SUMMER CAMP 2025



**9 WEEKS: JUNE 9- AUGUST 8**



**Ages: PK-6th  
Grade (3 years  
of age by 1/1/25  
through  
entering 7th  
grade)**

- **Weekly Themes**
- **Field Trips**
- **Arts & Crafts**
- **Science Projects**
- **Water Fun**
- **Outside Play**



**Camp Tuition  
(9AM-3PM):  
\$200/week  
Daily Rate:  
\$65/day**

**Before Care  
(7-9AM):  
\$50/week  
or  
\$20/day**

**After Care  
(3-6PM)  
\$75/week  
or  
\$30/day**

**Early Arrival/Late  
Pickup Fees:**  
Arrival prior to 8:45AM  
will be charged the  
before care fee.  
Pickup after 3:00PM  
(camp) or 6:00PM (after  
care)-\$15.00/10  
minutes.

**Registration  
requires a one-  
time non-  
refundable  
registration fee  
of \$35.**

**Registration  
requires a non-  
refundable, non-  
transferable  
deposit of \$50  
per week to hold  
your spot.**

**Early Bird Incentive:**  
Pay in full for 3 weeks  
or more of camp by  
May 9, 2025 for a \$75  
discount. Discount  
does not apply to  
before or after care  
charges.

**Multi-Child  
Discount:**  
\$20 off per week  
for 2nd and 3rd  
child (in the  
same family).



**Full payment is due  
the Friday prior to  
each camp week.  
Returned check fee:  
\$35 + court fees.  
Payments made by  
credit/debit card are  
subject to additional  
fees.**

**All campers  
receive a free T-  
shirt. Additional  
shirts available  
for \$15.**



**GRACE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY**

13000 Zekiah Drive, Waldorf, MD 20601

[www.graceknights.org](http://www.graceknights.org)



# GCA Summer Camp-2025

Week	Dates	Theme
Week 1	June 9-13	 Summer Party 
Week 2	June 16-20 Camp Closed Thursday, June 19th	 Underwater 
Week 3	June 23-27	 Sports 
Week 4	June 30- July 3 Camp Closed July 4th	 Party in the USA 
Week 5	July 7-11	 Disney 
Week 6	July 14-18	 Pirate Adventures 
Week 7	July 21-25	 Animals 
Week 8	July 28-Aug. 1	 Camping 
Week 9	August 4-8	 Space 





**Grace  
Christian  
ACADEMY**  
of MARYLAND

A Ministry of GRACE CHURCH | Waldorf



**\$200/  
WEEK**

# **PREK-6TH GRADE SUMMER CAMP**

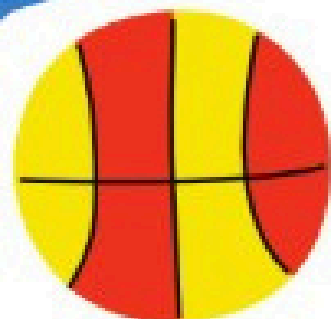
**JUNE 9-AUGUST 8**

**9 AM - 3 PM**  
WITH BEFORE AND  
AFTER CARE AVAILABLE

**WEEKLY THEMES,  
FIELD TRIPS, ARTS  
& CRAFTS, WATER  
FUN, OUTSIDE  
PLAY, AND MORE!**

**13000 ZEKIAH DRIVE,  
WALDORF, MD  
301-645-0406**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION  
VISIT  
GRACEKNIGHTS.ORG**





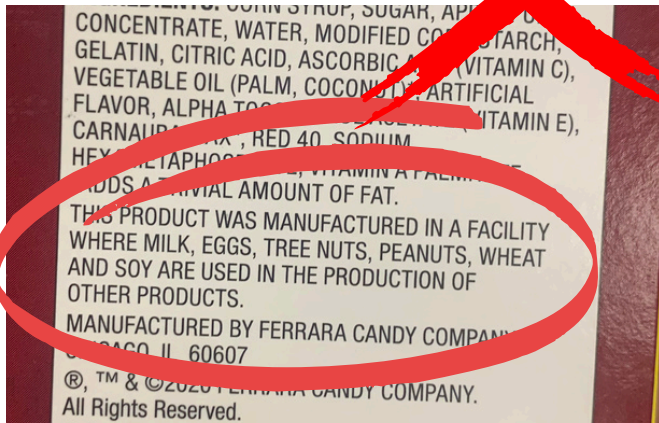
# SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Please be reminded that all student polos **MUST** have the GCA logo. All jackets, pullovers, hoodies etc. **MUST** have the GCA logo as well if they are going to be worn inside the building. When you are purchasing uniform bottoms please be aware of GCA uniform guidelines. A school uniform pant has a 'welt' pocket, not a *pocket on the outside*. Girls are **not** to wear *jegging style or stretchy pants* that are khaki or navy in color. We will be enforcing our dress code soon and will send parents an email if their child is out of dress code. *This goes for all students*. Many girls are wearing stretchy material pants. *Cargo shorts* are not a school uniform bottom.

Below are pictures of approved pants/shorts. Our SCHOOL WEBSITE has more detailed information about GCA's school uniform. Students will need to change if they are not in uniform.



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY



## Birthday Parties

Are you wanting to celebrate your student's birthday at school?

Students are allowed to bring in a treat such as cupcakes and cookies to school. All food must be brought to the office, not given to the teacher directly or sent in with the student.

Any item sent must abide by the following:

**MUST be SEALED from a STORE AND**

**MUST have a NUT FREE Label.**

- Your food will not be passed out if the label says made in a facility that produces nuts.
- **No balloons or treat bags.** If brought in, these will be left in the office. The school cannot be held responsible for any times that may contain an allergen in a treat bag, nor can we search each bag that is brought in.

# 2024-2025 Academy Calendar



Date	Day	Event
08/15/2024	Th	Binder Orientation and Study Skills, 6pm (All 3 <sup>rd</sup> and new 6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> Students)
08/19/2024	M	Meet & Greet, 4pm – 6pm
08/21/2024	W	First Day of School – Quarter 1 Begins
08/30/2024	F	<b>NO AFTER CARE</b>
09/02/2024	M	School Closed – Labor Day
09/13/2024	F	Half Day for Students (Teacher Professional Development) <b>NO AFTER CARE</b>
10/11/2024	F	<b>NO AFTER CARE</b>
10/14/2024	M	School Closed – Columbus Day
10/23/2024	W	End of Q1 (44 Days)
10/24/2024	Th	No School for Students (Teacher Workday)
10/25/2024	F	No School for Students (Teacher Professional Development)
10/28/2024	M	Begin Q2
11/04/2024	M	No School for Students – Parent Conference Day (Teacher Workday)
11/08/2024	F	<b>NO AFTER CARE</b>
11/11/2024	M	School Closed – Veteran's Day
11/26/2024	Tu	Half Day for All – <b>NO AFTER CARE</b>
11/27/2024	W	No School – Begin Thanksgiving Break
11/29/2024	F	No School – End Thanksgiving Break
12/02/2024	M	School Reopens
12/03/2024	T	<b>GIVING TUESDAY</b> – Please consider Donating to GCA. Thank You.
12/20/2024	F	Half Day for All <b>NO AFTER CARE</b>
12/23/2024	M	No School – Christmas Break Begins
01/03/2025	F	No School – Christmas Break Ends
01/06/2025	M	School Reopens – <b>HAPPY NEW YEAR!</b>
01/16/2025	Th	End of Q2 (44 Days)
01/17/2025	F	No School for Students (Teacher Workday)
01/20/2025	M	School Closed – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
01/21/2025	Tu	Begin Q3
02/14/2025	F	Half Day for Students (Teacher Professional Development) <b>NO AFTER CARE</b>
02/17/2025	M	No School – President's Day
03/05/2025	W	Half Day for Students (Teacher Professional Development) <b>NO AFTER CARE</b>
03/20/2025	Th	End of Q3 (42 Days)
03/21/2025	F	<b>NO AFTER CARE</b> (Teacher Workday) <b>HALF DAY for students. NO AFTERCARE</b>
03/28/2025	F	No School for All – Begin Quarter Break
03/31/2025	M	No School for All – End Quarter Break
04/17/2025	Th	Grandparents Day Program – Half Day for All – <b>NO AFTER CARE</b>
04/18/2025	F	No School – Good Friday
04/21/2025	M	No School – Easter Break Begins
04/25/2025	F	No School – Easter Break Ends
04/28/2025	M	School Reopens
05/23/2025	F	<b>NO AFTER CARE</b>
05/26/2025	M	No School – Memorial Day
05/27/2025	Tu	Half Day for Students (Teacher Workday) <b>NO AFTER CARE</b>
05/28/2025	W	Half Day for Students (Teacher Workday) <b>NO AFTER CARE</b>
05/29/2025	Th	Half Day for Students (Teacher Workday) <b>NO AFTER CARE</b>
05/30/2025	F	Half Day for Students – LAST DAY (Teacher Workday) <b>NO AFTER CARE</b> End of Q4

Three inclement weather/snow days have been built into the school calendar.

(170 SCHOOL DAYS + 3 SNOW DAY = 173 DAYS)

After three inclement weather days are used, the following will modify the school year: