

MARCH 2022

# 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:

- 3/7-3/11: Book Fair
- 3/10 Thursday: TAG Day!
- 3/17 Thursday: End of Q3, Special Dress Day (info included)
- 3/18-3/21: No School!
- 3/22: Q4 Begins (Q3 Report cards emailed this week.)
- 3/28: April Chick-Fil-A and Pizza forms due! Form found [HERE](#)!
- 3/28-4/1: Terra Nova Testing Week! (More info to come)

STAY UP TO DATE ON THE SCHOOL  
CALENDAR BY VISITING  
[GRACEKNIGHTS.ORG](http://GRACEKNIGHTS.ORG)!



### Message From the Office

It is hard to believe we are already wrapping up Quarter 3. We have many fun and exciting events planned for the remainder of the school year. We noticed a need for students to be reenergized and unified so our Athletic Director put together a 'Battle of the Classes' for Upper Elementary and Middle School where students take a short break from the classroom and participate in team building activities. The book fair is bringing a buzz of excitement around the school and plans for a Knight Fun Run is in the planning stage. This will be a 1 mile or 5k fun run on our campus and will include events for the whole family. Be on the lookout for more information on that. Students are starting to get excited about the upcoming spring sports season and there is an all around anticipation about being out side for classes, recess, and lunch. To say we have a fun and energized season ahead of us is an understatement! Even though there are many fun activities and extra-curriculars coming up, we are still putting a focus on the education of our students. Middle school will participate in a weekly study hall built into their class schedules to help them stay focused and finish the school year strong. Middle school students will have an opportunity to select their Q4 rotation class within the next week.

***The teachers and staff are looking forward to a wonderful wrap-up of Quarter 3 and a great start to Quarter 4!***

In His service,  
*Amanda Reed*  
Director of Education

## Job Opportunity: Summer Camp!

We have openings for camp workers for our GCA Summer Camp! Positions can be full time, part time, only work certain days, specific weeks, etc. **Anyone 16 years old and above may apply!** Each week consists of playing games, participating in activities, and chaperoning a weekly field trip. Trips last year included Pump it Up, Sky Zone, Scary Strokes, and many more exciting places! If you would like some more information, please reach out to [michelle.goodson@graceknights.org](mailto:michelle.goodson@graceknights.org).

## PreK/Elementary Arrival and Dismissal:

**(A note from the Director of Security:  
[greg.harris@graceknights.org](mailto:greg.harris@graceknights.org))**

**We are no longer using the car lane to drop off or pick up students. Please do not drive through the old car pool lane or park in front of the church steps (the K-2nd drop off area). This is a hazard to the many parents and students who are walking to and from their vehicles. Also, you must walk to the pick-up area to retrieve your student. We will not send your student to your car in the parking lot. Please meet them on the sidewalk or crosswalk. There have been many close calls and we need to all follow the rules to keep our students safe.**



## Spring Sports Schedule

**March 14th- March 18th  
practice/tryout schedule:**

**Monday: 3:30-5:00pm**  
Track and Field  
Flag Football

**Tuesday: 3:30-5:00pm**  
Track and Field  
Flag Football

**Wednesday: NO  
PRACTICE**

**Thursday: 3:30-5:00pm**  
Track and Field  
Flag Football

**Friday- No practice**

## GCA Athletics

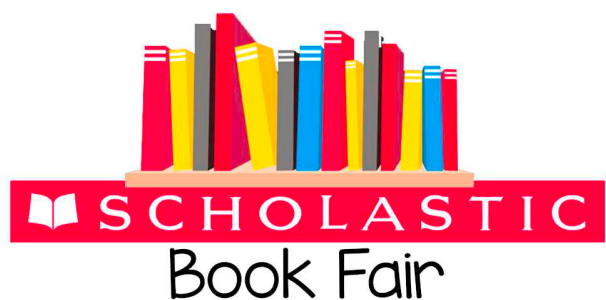
*Athletic Director: [stacie.buhl@graceknights.org](mailto:stacie.buhl@graceknights.org)*

*Spring Sports will kick off March 14th from 3:30-5pm, which will be for both Track and Field and Flag Football. More information to come in regards to Cheerleading. Students must have an updated physical on file to participate.*

***\*See the weekly schedule above!***

*Go Knights!*





## Scholastic Book Fair!

March 7-11, After School Shopping March 9 and 10

The book fair is back at Grace! Students will get to shop during their normal library times. Students got to preview the book fair during school on Friday and created their wish lists.

Parents/guardians may send cash in with their student or place money in their e-wallet. Please look in your child's folder for information on the e-wallet as it was sent out earlier this week.

**Want to shop with your student?** Come on out to our library on Wednesday, March 9 afterschool until 5PM and Thursday, March 10 until 6PM

Any Book Fair Questions? Email [cindy.hornickel@graceknights.org](mailto:cindy.hornickel@graceknights.org)

# Summer Camp

Click [HERE](#) for the registration forms!

Any summer camp questions? Email [michelle.goodson@graceknights.org](mailto:michelle.goodson@graceknights.org)



## ELEMENTARY

## Summer

## CAMP 2022

9 WEEKS: JUNE 6-AUGUST 5

**Ages: PK4-5th Grade** (4 years of age by 9/1/22 through entering 6th grade)

• Weekly Themes  
• Field Trips  
• Arts & Crafts  
• Science  
• Reading  
• Water Fun  
• Outside Play

Campers receive a free T-shirt. Additional shirts available for \$12.



**Camp Tuition (8AM-3PM):**  
**\$180/week**  
Before Care (8:30-8AM): \$50/week  
After Care (3-6PM): \$75/week

Registration requires a non-refundable deposit (\$25/week). If \$25 deposit is not paid, your spot will not be held.

**Early Bird Incentive:** Pay in full for 3 weeks or more of camp by May 7, 2022 for a 10% discount. Discount does not apply to before or after care charges.

**Multi-Child Discount:** 10% off for 2nd and 3rd child (in the same family). 50% off for 4th child.



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 a 2.5% fee.

**Daily Drop In:** \$60/day  
All paperwork must be completed. Payment in cash or credit card only.

**Early Arrival/Late Pickup Fees:**  
Arrival prior to 7:50AM-\$15.00  
Pickup after 3:00PM (camp) or 6:00PM (after care)-\$25.00

**GRACE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY**  
13000 Zekiah Drive, Waldorf, MD 20601  
[www.graceknights.org](http://www.graceknights.org)

## Elementary Summer Camp-2022

Week	Dates	Theme
Week 1	June 6-10	 <b>Summer Party</b> 
Week 2	June 13-17	 <b>Sports</b> 
Week 3	June 21-24 <small>Camp Closed June 20th in Observance of Juneteenth</small>	 <b>Underwater</b> 
Week 4	June 27-July 1	 <b>Party in the USA</b> 
Week 5	July 5-8 <small>Camp Closed July 4th</small>	 <b>Camping</b> 
Week 6	July 11-15	 <b>Disney</b> 
Week 7	July 18-22	 <b>Pirate Adventures</b> 
Week 8	July 25-29	 <b>Animals</b> 
Week 9	August 1-5	 <b>Space</b> 

## Administrative Contacts

- Mr. Dwayne Johnson, Interim Director  
dwayne.johnson@graceknights.org
- Amanda Reed, Director of Education  
amanda.reed@graceknights.org
- Debbie Collignon, S.T.E.P Center, Homeschool Coordinator  
debbie.collignon@graceknights.org
- Nancy Kemmerer, Comptroller  
nancy.kemmerer@graceknights.org
- Lisa Johnson, Director of Admissions  
lisa.johnson@graceknights.org
- Megan Schaniel, Academic Advisor  
megan.schaniel@graceknights.org
- Michelle Goodson, Before & After Care  
michelle.goodson@graceknights.org
- Mrs. Stacie Buhl, Athletic Director  
stacie.buhl@graceknights.org
- Julie Turner, Office Manager  
julie.turner@graceknights.org

## School Uniform Orders

*Polos, Gym Uniforms, Hoodies, etc.*

Order forms are available in the front office for gym uniforms (grades 6-8) and sweatshirts/hoodies. With the weather becoming cooler, any outerwear worn in the school must have the Grace logo. Students are allowed to wear any outwear to school and when outside of the school, such as recess, but when in the building, any hoodie/jacket/etc. that does not have the official GCA logo must be kept in a locker or in a backpack. Any questions about ordering or current orders?

Contact [keriscohen@gmail.com](mailto:keriscohen@gmail.com).

## We are GRACE!

- **G**rateful *Hebrews 12:28*
- **R**espectful *1 Peter 2:17*
- **A**ccountable *Galatians 6:4-5*
- **C**ourteous *Ephesians 4:32*
- **E**xcellence Driven *Colossians 3:23-24*

# DRESS CODE

Now that school is in full swing, please take the time to remind yourself and your student of GCA's student dress code.

- **All hair should be a natural color. Please begin to plan for girls to have only natural hair colors (no pinks, purples, blues, etc).**
- Bottoms are to be an approved school uniform bottom. No jeggings or cargo pants allowed. Pants should not be skin tight.
- All students are to have on a school uniform top (a navy or white polo), even if they are wearing a GCA hoodie, sweatshirt.
- Crocs are not an approved shoe at GCA.

**Students will first receive a verbal notice of any infraction. A second infraction will result in parent contact and the student will either be given a new article of clothing to wear or a parent will be called to bring appropriate clothing.**





# OPEN HOUSE

13000 Zekiah Dr.  
Waldorf MD 20601

Saturday, 3/12 & 3/26  
10AM-12PM

- ✓ Meet Administration
- ✓ Check out the Campus and Classrooms
- ✓ See how we learn the **GRACE** way!



## Open House!

Grace is having another Open House on March 12 and 26. Is there someone you know who could be a part of our GCA Family next school year? Let them know there are open houses coming up! Did you know Grace has a New Family Referral program? When a family that you refer to school enrolls you can earn a \$500 tuition credit! Find more information [HERE](#). Any families interested in attending the open can sign up by emailing [admissions@graceknights.org](mailto:admissions@graceknights.org).

**Grace Christian ACADEMY**  
of MARYLAND  
A Ministry of Grace Church | Waldorf

**Re-Enroll**  
Now Open for all current families!

**Secure your spot for the 2022-2023 School Year!**

\*Open enrollment for new families begins March 1.

**REGISTER BEFORE MAY 1 TO SAVE \$150 ON REGISTRATION FEES!**

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



**March 17, 2022**

GCA students may wear  
**GREEN.**

Tag Day Rules Apply

Jeans are acceptable, but no rips or holes.

# GCA's Updated Mask Policy

Greetings GCA Parents and Guardians,

Based on the latest guidelines released by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the recent vote by the Maryland State Board of Education on February 22, 2022, this morning, March 1, 2022, the GCA Board voted unanimously to end the mask mandate here at Grace Christian Academy effective immediately. Beginning Wednesday, March 2, 2022, Grace Christian will no longer require masks and the use of masks is optional for students, staff and visitors who enter our building and grounds.

This means that staff, students and visitors may continue to wear masks to Grace if they so choose. We ask parents to speak with their child about wearing a mask and respecting others who choose not to do so as Grace will not enforce mask usage among students. You are encourage to make masking decisions that best suit your child and your family. Please note that the CDC, along with the state and local health authorities, still recommends regular mask use for those who are medically compromised or unvaccinated for COVID-19.

Grace will continue the following mitigating measures:

1. Use of our Fever Free App - parents/students will continue to use the app daily with a successful clearance before students will be allowed to enter the building.
2. Have students stay home if sick - please continue to use the [Healthnotes@graceknights.org](mailto:Healthnotes@graceknights.org) to report students illnesses and testing results.
3. Use of hand sanitizer is available in every room and throughout the building.
4. Continue to follow the CDC's guidance for staff and students who may test positive for COVID

Since Grace is moving to masks as an option versus a requirement, we are focusing on returning to standard operations for our school in the near future. This has been what seems like an eternity, but with God's help, we will continue to move forward and begin to operate in this new normal for education. Please continue to pray for the health and well-being of our community as our focus is still on the health and safety of our students and staff.

Thank you all for your support as we move forward.

In His Service,

Dwayne Johnson, Interim Director



