

NOVEMBER, 2021

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:

- 11/9 Tuesday: Make-Up Picture Day!
- 11/11 Thursday: Veteran's Day, NO SCHOOL!
- 11/18 Thursday: TAG Day
- 11/22 Monday: Dec Chick-Fil-A Order Due
- 11/23 Tuesday: Half Day-NO AFTER CARE!
- 11/24-28: Thanksgiving Break- NO SCHOOL!
- 11/29: Monday-Return to School, Mid-Quarter

STAY UP TO DATE ON THE SCHOOL
CALENDAR BY VISITING
GRACEKNIGHTS.ORG!



Message From the Director of Education

Hello Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to Quarter 2! We kicked off chapel this month with our Honor Roll Chapel. Due to Covid restrictions, parents were not allowed to come but we did, however, take a picture of each student receiving their award and will send it out to parents. Please be patient with this process. Many parents are starting to ask how they can help our school or if there are any volunteer opportunities. We pray that as this quarter progresses we can start to open up the school more and allow more parents in. If you are interested in volunteering you can let me know and we will begin to make a list in case an opportunity arises. Thank you to all families who came out to the Parent/Teacher conferences this past Monday. We truly do cherish our partnership with you! For quarters 2-3, all report cards will be emailed to parents, not printed. Teachers are excited for the fresh start this quarter brings. Now that we have had a quarter to learn each student's personalities, study habits, and strengths and weaknesses, plans can be made to better adapt our classroom management. We are all praying for a wonderful Quarter 2!

In His Service,
Amanda Reed

Good-Bye, Nurse Johnson!

Our wonderful nurse is moving to her home state at the end of the month to be with her parents and grandchildren. While we will miss her dearly, we want to take these remaining 2 weeks she has with us and bless her! Please send in a card, note, or token of appreciation and we will give them to her. Nurse Johnson has truly made this school a better place and we want to show her how much she means to us. Her final day is November 19. Please send in any card or note before then.

Job Openings

Immediate Availability

- **Substitute Teacher:** As needed, \$13/hour. Do you have an extra day in the week and would like to earn some extra money? We would love to have you on our GCA team!
- **School Nurse:** Inquire
- **PreK Aide:** \$13/hour

Applications are found [HERE](#)! Contact Mrs. Schaniel with any questions.

Megan.schaniel@graceknights.org

Ice Cream Friday!

Kinder -5th grade

Every Friday!

Students from Kindergarten through 5th grade will have an opportunity to buy ice cream to have delivered at lunchtime. This is a school fundraiser. Prices range from \$0.25 to \$2.00. Please send in correct change as teachers may not be able to make change. Ice cream money is collected first thing in the morning on Friday. No orders can be made once the order is submitted. **Late students are not be able to place an order. All orders go through the classroom teacher. The office does not collect ice cream orders/money.**

Click [HERE](#) for price sheet!

Fever Free Reminder:

The weather is turning cold and many parents complete Fever Free screening in the car. It is best to complete the screening at home in the colder and hotter months. When thermometers are left in a car they tend to not work properly. Also, temperatures are often skewed by either the cold weather or heat from the vehicle. We cannot complete a temperature screening at the drop off doors. Any student with an invalid screening must be accompanied to the main office to check in.

Used Uniform Sales:

This is a reminder that there are many new and like-new uniform items for sale for only \$2 each. Contact the front office for a time to stop by and see what is available for your child.

Note from the Athletic Director

Athletic Director: stacie.buhl@graceknights.org

Volleyball wrapped up with a great season of growth and knowledge of the game. Great job to all of the girls for playing hard and being dedicated. Uniform turn in and team pictures are afterschool on November 12.

Winter sports is quickly approaching! This season we hope to have boys and girls basketball and cheerleading. If you are interested in helping out with any of the sports, please contact Mrs. Buhl.

Basketball Tryouts are November 15! Be on the lookout for an email with details.

GO KNIGHTS!



Honor Roll Hoodies

POC: Keri Cohen

Students who made the honor roll have an opportunity to order an Honor Roll Hoodie! Order forms are available in the main office.

Overflowing Lost and Found

Located in front of elevator by the Mezz

There are MANY sweaters, jackets, hoodies, polos, and PE uniforms in the lost and found. Please encourage your child to stop by and see if anything belongs to them. Also, please LABEL all PE uniforms and outdoor wear so it can be returned to its owner.

Operation Christmas Child

Kick Off: Wednesday October 6

For the past 28 years Operation Christmas Child has been collecting shoe boxes filled with gifts and delivering them to children in need around the world. Each box is an opportunity for a boy or girl to experience the love of God in a tangible way and hear the Gospel. Many children who receive the shoebox gifts also enroll in our follow-up discipleship program, The Greatest Journey, where they learn to follow Christ and share Him with others. It all starts with a simple gift. Will you prayerfully consider joining us in this exciting ministry?

Steps in packing a box

1. Find a standard size shoebox
2. Decide a gender and age range (2-4, 5-9, 10-14)
3. Fill it with toys and other gifts (hygiene items, school supplies, accessories, clothing) Please do not include ANY liquids, toothpaste, food/candy, and war related toys
4. Please consider donating the \$9.00 for shipping (a check inside the box or online to track your box's destination)
5. Bring the shoebox to your child's teacher or Mrs. Miller E24. Email jennifer.miller@graceknights.org if you have additional questions or would like to get your church, business, or civic group involved!



OUR MISSION

*To provide academic excellence from a biblical perspective
in order to develop servant leaders of all walks of life who live and
love like Jesus Christ.*

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.

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.

A Note From the School Nurse

DAILY HEALTH SCREENING/RETURN TO SCHOOL

As you know, GCA cannot stop the spread of COVID-19 and other illnesses if sick children are sent to school. Thank you for cooperating with us by ensuring your child is well before sending him/her to school. By now you should all be familiar with the Fever Free Screening App. Whenever possible, please perform the screening BEFORE arriving at school. Thank you for your patience as the kinks are worked out with the Fever-Free system.

It is the expectation of Grace Christian Academy that all students and employees will stay home if he/she is exhibiting any ONE of the following symptoms: fever of 100.4 degrees or higher, sore throat, cough, difficulty breathing, diarrhea, vomiting, new onset of severe headache (especially with fever), or new loss of taste or smell. For persons with chronic conditions such as asthma or seasonal allergies, the symptoms should represent a change from baseline.

Individuals with even ONE of the above COVID-19 symptoms, not related to a chronic condition, are not permitted on the GCA campus. HOUSEHOLD members of the ill person must also stay home until the ill person has received either a negative COVID-19 test or an alternate diagnosis. The parent or guardian should report the symptom(s) to the school nurse by 9:00 am. Please work with the school nurse to determine the next steps. The ill person must have approval by the school nurse or administration in order to return to school.

If the student or employee has one of the above symptoms, it is recommended to have an evaluation by a health care provider to see if there might be an alternate diagnosis and/or testing for COVID-19.

If the individual is diagnosed with COVID-19, the Maryland Department of Health Decision Aid will be followed along with consultation from the Charles County Health Department.

If the individual is diagnosed with an alternate diagnosis, a note from the health care provider is required before returning to school.

If the individual is waiting for a COVID-19 test result, he/she should quarantine while waiting for the results. If the results are negative, the nurse will need to see the test results before approval to return to school.

For more information, see the most recent version of the [Md. Dept. of Health's Decision Aid for Schools](#).