

OCTOBER, 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:

- 10/8 Friday: NO AFTERCARE!
- 10/11 Monday: No School!
- 10/14 Thursday: TAG Day!
- 10/19 Tuesday: Claire's Gourmet Pickup!
- 10/20 Wednesday: End of Q1
- 10/21-10/22: NO SCHOOL!
- 10/29 Friday: Nov Chick-Fil-A Order Forms Due!
- 11/1 Monday: NO SCHOOL! Parent Teacher Conferences
- 11/9 Tuesday: Make-Up Picture Day!

Spirit Week Info on pg 2!

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



Message From the Director of Education

Hello Parents/Guardians:

It is hard to believe the first quarter of this school year is coming to an end! This quarter has been an adjustment for families as we work to get back into a routine with early mornings and school work. I know this has been hard for some of the students and parents but I want to thank everyone for working hard this quarter and making the adjustments to succeed. Quarter 1 ends on Wednesday 10/20. All missing work must be turned in by this date unless a completion plan has been discussed with the teacher directly. **Elementary and Preschool parents** will receive their child's report card or fall assessment at their Parent/Teacher conference on Monday, November 1. Classroom teachers will send out a sign-up with with times. **Middle school** report cards are emailed out on Wednesday, October 27. Any middle school parent who wishes to set up a conference with a teacher on November 1 may contact Mrs. Megan Schaniel. If you have any questions for report cards, Parent/Teacher conferences, or end/start of a quarter please let me know.

In His Service,
Amanda Reed



Hall of Fame!

Our very own Mr. Dwayne Johnson is being inducted to his college hall of fame for his college basketball career! He will return to Albion College in Michigan later this month for the induction ceremony. Please join us in congratulating him.

Mr. Johnson, we are very proud of you!

Job Openings

Immediate Availability

- **Substitute Teacher:** As needed, \$13 an 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!

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!

Medical Records Updates:

Please turn in your most recent Health Inventory, or Lead Screening (if applicable form included in Health Inventory) Immunization Records, Medication Authorization, Asthma Action Plan, FAAP (Food Allergy, Anaphylaxis Plan) to the main office or email them lisa.johnson@graceknights.org & susan.johnson@graceknights.org

Should you have any questions or concerns please contact the main office.

Spirit Week:

- Mon 10/4 Favorite Sports Team
- Tues 10/5 Character Day
- Wed 10/6 Awareness Day
- Thurs 10/7
 - Elementary: Mismatch Day
 - Middle School: Decades Dress
- Fri 10/8: SPIRIT DAY/GCA Dress!

Note from the Athletic Director

Athletic Director: stacie.buhl@graceknights.org

GCA has had a successful and healthy start to introducing athletics back into school. The girls volleyball team is made up of 18 girls from 6th-8th grade. They continue to improve each passing week. The girls have one more home game left. Come out and cheer on the Lady Knights on Oct. 12th at 4pm.

Winter Sports (Nov.-Feb.)

Girls Basketball
Boys Basketball
Cheerleading

More Info to come, however, if your child is interested in one the sports please make sure they have an updated physical on file at school.



Claire's Gourmet

Pick-Up: Tues 10/19

Thank you to everyone who participated! You all have helped make our first fundraiser of the year successful. **But, YOUR WORK IS NOT DONE YET!** All items are delivered on Tuesday, 10/19. At dismissal time (*an exact time frame to come*) an adult must come to the gym to pick up all items that are shipped as a local pick-up. This means any order submitted to the school on the paper forms and any online orders that were marked as local pick-up. **We cannot keep items here at the school overnight.** All items must be picked up on 10/19. Again, thank you so much for your support, it is such a blessing!

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](#).



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Waldorf, Maryland 20601
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www.graceknights.org

Supply Lists

Click on the grade level to see the supply list.

[PreK 3](#)

[PreK 4](#)

[Kinder](#)

[Grade 1](#)

[Grade 2](#)

[Grade 3](#)

[Grade 4](#)

[Grade 5](#)

[Grade 6-8](#)