



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS  
OF FRIENDSHIP

## WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN  
PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN

2015 - 2016

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**May 1:**  
*RenWeb Enrollment must be completed*

**May 1:**  
*Summer Camp balances due through FACTS account*

**May 2-6:**  
*Teacher Appreciation Week*

**May 6:**  
*Fine Arts Appreciation Day (4's & Kindergarten); parents attend*

**May 9-13:**  
*Last week of extended day classes*

**May 18:**  
*Last Day of School Celebration*

## SPIRIT DAYS

**May 18:** *WPPK Spirit Day*

## NEW ADDITIONS TO WPPK FAMILIES

Michelle & David Monteiro  
*welcomed*

Polly

born April 11

*Big Sister Mary (Toddlers) and  
former WPPK student Annabel*

*Much happiness to you!*

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

### Dallas Zoo

- Dallas Roars! Under the Sea, *Saturdays, April 16-May 22, 1:00-5:00*
- Zoo Yoga, *Saturdays in May*

### Dallas Children's Theater:

- Pinkalicious, the Musical, *June 17 - July 17*

### Dallas Museum of Art

- Sculpture Mania, *May 3*
- Arturo's Art & Me, *May 11, 12 & 14; June 1, 2 & 4*
- Toddler Art, *May 13, 17, 20, June 3, 7, 10*

### Klyde Warren Park

- Spanish in the Park, *May 7*
- Imagination Playground, *Tuesdays in May*

### Dallas Arboretum

- Little Adventurers Activities, *Weekdays in May*

## WPC EVENTS

**April 16: FEEDING THE HOMELESS AT AUSTIN STREET SHELTER.** Westminster will prepare and serve the evening meal for approximately 450 people at Austin Street Centre on Saturday evening, April 16. All are welcome to participate, including children. Much help will be needed in preparing the food and supplies in advance so that it may be transported to the Center that evening. Please contact Mike Stanley for more information [mike@colbystanley.com](mailto:mike@colbystanley.com) or 817-724-7430.

**MAY 14: SCREENAGERS - MOVIE & DISCUSSION** WPC will host a screening of the movie Screenagers on May 14 at 4:00 pm followed by a brief town hall discussion. The hope is to form a community of people who are concerned about the amount of time their teens spend on electronic devices. If you are interested in seeing the movie, here is a link to purchase tickets <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lets-get-re-al-westminster-presbyterian-church-presents-screenagers-growing-up-in-the-digital-age-tickets-24688774790?aff=ebrowse>

**MAY 7: (7:30-8:30am) BREAKFAST AT THE BRIDGE** The dining room at The Bridge Homeless Assistance Center is called the Second Chance Cafe. The Stewpot coordinates the volunteers needed to serve three meals a day, seven days a week. If you would be interested in serving please call or e-mail Mike Stanley ([mike@colbystanley.com](mailto:mike@colbystanley.com) or 817-724-7430).

### FAMILY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Westminster is hosting a family VBS this summer in two sessions, June 21 and July 26 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. There will be a speaker for adults, Kathleen Fischer, and activities for children similar to traditional VBS. Registration will be online at [www.wpcd.org/familynights](http://www.wpcd.org/familynights) by May 4. Questions? please contact Danielle Tsai at [tsai.danielle@yahoo.com](mailto:tsai.danielle@yahoo.com)

8200 Devonshire Dr. • Dallas, TX 75209 • [www.wpcd.org](http://www.wpcd.org)  
Cristine L. Watson, Director • [wppkdirector@gmail.com](mailto:wppkdirector@gmail.com)

# WESTMINSTER NEWSLETTER

May 2016

## CURRICULUM CONNECTION

### Chapel Stories

*May 2 (New Kindergarten Welcome)* Mark 4: 3-8 • The Sower  
Message: What kind of ground allows growth

*May 9* Luke 10:25-37 • The Good Samaritan  
Message: Love your enemies!

*May 16* Acts 2 • Pentecost  
Message: A Birthday Celebration!

### Christian Education:

**Forgiveness • Faithfulness • Peacefulness**

The fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness and faithfulness. *Galatians 5:22*

### Capers Stories

*May 3* The Happy Lion

*May 10* Anansi and the moss-covered rock

*May 17* The Prodigal Son

## SNACK SCHEDULE

<i>May 2</i>	Goldfish	<i>May 16</i>	Graham Crackers
<i>May 3</i>	Grapes & cheese	<i>May 17</i>	Apple slices
<i>May 4</i>	Bananas	<i>May 18</i>	Celebration Day!
<i>May 5</i>	Animal Crackers		
<i>May 6</i>	Fresh Snack		

<i>May 9</i>	Cereal Mix
<i>May 10</i>	Clementine's
<i>May 11</i>	Whole Wheat Crackers & Hummus
<i>May 12</i>	Pretzels
<i>May 13</i>	Fresh Snack

## PARENTS CLUB NEWS

It is hard to believe, but our final days of school are already upon us. What a wonderful year! Our students and teachers have enjoyed using all of the new materials purchased at the fall party. Please know that you all made a direct impact in each classroom through the purchase of "Teacher Wishes." Thank you for your generosity.

Thank you to every family for allowing me to serve as President of the Parents Club this year. I am grateful to each member of the Parents Club Board for making my job easier and investing their time to ensure that WPPK had another great year. I am excited to pass the torch to an amazing mom and generous friend, Laura Boynton. I know she will do an extraordinary job leading Parents Club next year.

Thank you to Ashley Morriss for spending countless hours redesigning the newsletter, tracking me down for the president's letter and creating a beautiful newsletter month after month! You are so talented and have been so generous with your time. Thank you also to Vincelee Singer for planning and organizing Teacher Appreciation Week (May 2-6), which will be a wonderful week of celebrating our teachers. Please contact Vincelee or your room mom if you have any questions.

Please plan to join us for the last school event of the year, the End of Year Celebration on Wednesday, May 18, at 11:30 on the front lawn. We have been celebrating WPPK's 50th birthday all year, and we look forward to this birthday party so we can recognize WPPK's 50 years of accomplishments and the many years of continued accomplishments to come! You will be receiving special WPPK treats in your child's tote as the end of the year approaches. Thank you to Courtney St. Eve and Nicole Aramoonie for their hard work and creativity in ensuring we all have a fun time at this end of the year event.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer!

*Molly Schulte, WPPK Parents Club President*  
214-738-7185 • [molly.schulte@yahoo.com](mailto:molly.schulte@yahoo.com)

## END OF YEAR CELEBRATION



**Wednesday, May 18th • 11:30-12:30**

**WPC Front Lawn**

**Featuring: DJ, Dippin' Dots ice cream, & Fire truck!!!**

**BYOL (bring your own lunch)**

## NEED TO KNOW

### 2016-2017 Class Placements

As we develop the classes for next year, there are many issues to consider, keeping in mind that a balanced class impacts the success of the school year for all. Classes are balanced by: birthdays, developmental readiness, academic strengths and areas for growth, new children and returning children, special needs of children, gender, and social needs. The teacher from the previous year also adds any feedback she may have. Once the classes are configured, changes can occur in our enrollment that requires restructuring classes from the original design. Each placement is given careful and individual consideration for the achievement of the overall class. Once the process is complete, there is no ability to move among classes. Class placements will be available through the school Directory.

### Teacher Appreciation Week

Parents Club and Vincelee Stevens have mapped out a fun schedule for Teacher Appreciation Week. Details to come!

### Directory Advertising

If you would like to sponsor your child's class page, a family ad, or inside the back cover, please turn in your ad sheet (and any associated photos) by May 1.

## Parenting Principles

### Books to enjoy with your kids

As your child moves into higher level attention/listening abilities as well as more interest-centered literature, I would like to share with you some wonderful series of chapter books that you might like to share with your child. Reading to your child at a higher level allows for wonderful exposure to rich language, new vocabulary, new adventures, and higher level thinking skills, builds comprehension and is quality parent-child time.

Enjoy all these options to immerse your child in exceptional literature!

- Andrew Lost
- A to Z Mysteries (A would be The Absent Author)
- Bailey School Kids
- Charming Ponies
- The Secrets of Droon (there are about 31 books in the series)
- The Magic Tree House (there are at least 35 books in the series, Lions at Lunchtime, Vacation under the Volcano, Dingoes at Dinnertime are a few)
- There are also books that are topic-based such as Knight and Castles, Pirates, Dolphins, Rainforests, Twisters, Pyramids, Space, Dinosaurs, American Revolution
- I'm Going to Read: Levels 1-3
- I Can Read: Levels 1-3
- Books such as Biscuit, Amelia Bedelia, Danny and the Dinosaur, Frog & Toad, Zak's Alligator
- The DK Reader Series
- The Step into Reading Series: Levels 1-4
- Preschool Authors such as Diana Aston Hutts

## In Closing

In closing..

This has been such a wonderful year to celebrate WPPK's 50th birthday! From the Back to School Coffee to Year End Celebration Day, many people gave enormous amounts of time and planning to make this year special.

We are grateful to the Parents Club for the endless enjoyment of lunches, gatherings, Teacher Wish List, funding of the LEAP program, birthday treats and Teacher Appreciation Week to list just a few! Our President, Molly Schulte, has organized and implemented a year of great celebration with our 50th birthday. Every position in Parents Club is deeply appreciated and needed to make each year successful and rewarding for all. The staff and I appreciate your commitment and energy to these volunteer positions along with time to be a Mystery Reader, bring fresh snack, help with carpool, cooking in classrooms, driving on field trips and much more!

We say goodbye to Mrs. Ashley Shull as our Librarian as she takes time to enjoy the new addition, David, to their family. Thank you Mrs. Shull for 2 wonderful years of stories and songs!

We welcome in Mrs. Joanne Gates as our incoming Literacy Librarian for the 2016-2017 school year. Joanne holds a BS in Elementary Education, MED in Education Instructional Leadership & Curriculum and 12 years teaching experience. She is also "mom" to Ellie, Ben & Gracie who will be in the 4's program next year.

### REMEMBER:

Allow time to read, play, imagine, dream, build, explore, climb trees, play games, wonder, take walks, look at stars, listen to music, visit the library, explore statues downtown, recycle, visit a place each month, listen to stories on the radio, "camp" out outdoors, build forts, develop your own Imagination Station at home, work with tools, play card games, work word searches, learn magic tricks, read poetry, visit the SPCA, ride the DART, sell lemonade, be a photographer-meterologist-gardener-chef, learn about a new country, try new recipes, do daily chores, help a neighbor, eat your meals on china, pack picnics to go to new parks and best of all....step away from screen time. Nurture and facilitate fueling your child's imagination. Allow your child to take charge of a day and "FOLLOW THEIR CURIOSITY" - a core value at WPPK.

To our non-returning families, thank you for allowing us to share in the precious time of early childhood. We wish you all continued joy and happiness on your path of learning. To our returning families, have a safe and happy summer until we return for Visitation Day August 30.

With gratitude and deep appreciation,  
*Cristine L. Watson, MS*

*Director*