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December 2023/January 2024

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# NEWSCHESTER

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**Melissa Geraine, Principal**

Avis Goodman, Assistant Principal

William Hartner, Assistant Principal



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**Main Office**

**(754) 322-8900**

**Attendance Line**

**(754) 322-8902**

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Wildcat Families!

Winter break is quickly approaching and tis the season for reflecting on accomplishments and milestones. I want you all to know how much I appreciate the many ways in which you have contributed to the success of our students and staff. We are currently accepting gifts for our annual giving tree. This has been a Westchester tradition for many years. We usually collect more than one hundred gifts for students in need. We love helping our Westchester families. We have very generous Wildcats, and this warms my heart!

I hope you all spend time with those you love this holiday season. Remember to take time to thank all of those who have had an impact on your life and your child's life. Our children are fortunate to have so many caring adults in their lives and it is all our responsibility to teach them to be thankful for what they have and learn early on how to give to others less fortunate in the community.

I would like to wish the entire Westchester Wildcat Family a happy, healthy, and relaxing holiday season! See you in 2024!

Happy Holidays!

Mrs. Geraine, your proud principal



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Westchester Elementary PTA

Phone: 754-322-8900

Website: [www.browardschools.com/westchester](http://www.browardschools.com/westchester)

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**December 4-8: Holiday Shop**

**December 12: PTA Meeting**

**December 13: Kid of Character (Kindness)**

**December 15: Last day of Giving Tree**

**December 18-22: Spirit Week**

**December 19: Snow Day**

**December 25-Jan 5: Winter Break**

**January 8: Return to school**

**January 15: No School, MLK Jr. Day**

**January 19: Early Release Day**

**January 22: Report Cards**



**Safety and security are our top priorities. Please make sure to remember the following safety procedures:**

- ❖ All visitors **MUST** report to the front office and must have I.D. to gain access to our school.
- ❖ All visitors must go through our Raptor Visitor System.
- ❖ Students will wear their I.D.s while on campus.
- ❖ Parents must update their contact information with the front office.
- ❖ Visitors must stop at the front gate and speak with our Campus Monitor to gain entrance to campus.
- ❖ Identification is needed to gain access to front office.



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- ❖ The first bell rings at 7:55 a.m. each morning.
- ❖ On campus supervision begins at 7:30 a.m.
- ❖ Breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m. All students are invited to eat breakfast at no charge.
- ❖ It is vital that students arrive to school on-time.
- ❖ K - 2 car rider students are dropped off and picked up in the front of the school, at the main entrance on Royal Palm.
- ❖ K-2 Walkers enter and exit through Gate 2 at the front of the school (corner of Royal Palm and 123 Ave)
- ❖ 3 - 5 car rider students are dropped off and picked up at the rear of the school on 123<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. If you have more than one child, use the drop off and pick up area of the youngest child.
- ❖ 3 - 5 Walkers enter and exit at rear of campus, Gate 6, on 123<sup>rd</sup> Avenue.
- ❖ Please do not park or leave cars unattended in the car loop area.
- ❖ Dismissal is 2:00 p.m.
- ❖ Early Release Day dismissal is 12:00 p.m.

For the safety of our students, we ask that parents in the car lane abide by some simple safety rules:

- ❖ No cell phone usage when in the car line.
- ❖ Parents, please remain in your car.
- ❖ Please make sure your child is prepared to exit the vehicle when you pull into the car line.
- ❖ Children are to exit from the right side of the vehicle (sidewalk)
- ❖ Please stay in one lane, the outside lane is for those cars that are parking or exiting.
- ❖ Pull all the way up. The safety of your child/children is our top priority.



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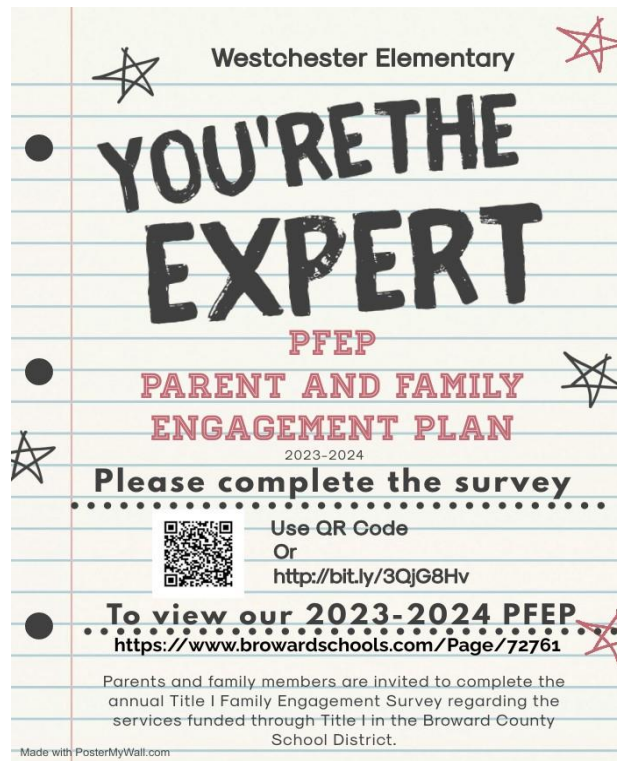
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Parents and family members are invited to complete the annual Title 1 Family Engagement Survey regarding the services funded through Title I in the Broward County School District. We really appreciate your feedback.

[Title 1 Survey](#)



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Dear Wildcat Families and Friends,

- Our *Warm Up for a Cause* fundraiser is still going! *Warm Up for a Cause* is a school fundraising event that will help our school raise money towards our school improvement project. 100% of the donations your student helps raise will go directly to our school and students. *Warm Up for a Cause* will begin on We will celebrate our fundraiser with a school *Snow Day* celebration. For more information about our fundraiser, email [westchesterpta.main@gmail.com](mailto:westchesterpta.main@gmail.com)
- Yearbooks are on sale now. You can purchase a yearbook at <https://tinyurl.com/WildcatsYearbook> Price will increase on Dec 2nd. Price increases with each sale window. Visit [www.westchesterpta.com](http://www.westchesterpta.com) for more information.

*Happy Holidays and a Joyous New Year!*  
*From your PTA*



Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ptawestchester](http://www.facebook.com/ptawestchester)

Email: [westchesterpta.main@gmail.com](mailto:westchesterpta.main@gmail.com)

Website: [www.westchesterpta.com](http://www.westchesterpta.com)



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## See Something. Hear Something. Say Something.

In an emergency, call 911 immediately. To submit a safety concern that is not urgent, you can do so anonymously. Help identify and intervene with at-risk individuals **BEFORE** they hurt themselves or others by reporting non-urgent threats, harassing behaviors, illegal activity (vandalism, theft, the sale of drugs), as well as information about planned crimes.

How do you make an anonymous report? There are many ways to provide a tip, just follow the directions below:

**Download and Use the SaferWatch App**

Download the SaferWatch App at [getsaferwatch.com/download](http://getsaferwatch.com/download). This app gives users in Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) and those who communicate with local law enforcement and the BCPS Special Investigative Unit (SICU) about incidents or concerns.

**Download and Use the FortifyFL App**

Download the FortifyFL App at [getfortifyfl.com](http://getfortifyfl.com). Using any electronic device, FortifyFL provides a secure, confidential, anonymous way to report suspicious activity, or the threat of future activities. FortifyFL reports to law enforcement agency and school officials.

**Contact SaferWatch Alerts**

Emergency tips can be made to the SICU via:

- Call 754-322-8900
- Text 754-322-8900, enter "SICU" topics with your text message
- Email [saferwatch@browardschools.com](mailto:saferwatch@browardschools.com)



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