

December 2022/January 2023

NEWSCHESTER



Melissa Geraine, Principal

Avis Goodman, Assistant Principal

William Hartner, Assistant Principal

Main Office

(754) 322-8900

Attendance Line

(754) 322-8902

Aftercare Line

(754) 322-8927

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Wildcat Families!

The holiday season has arrived. I hope you all enjoyed your Thanksgiving Break. We just have a few more weeks and we will be out for winter break. Time truly does fly!

In the meanwhile, Westchester has several traditions this time of year. One of our favorite traditions is our Giving Tree. The Giving Tree has been a tradition here for many years. Your generosity allows us to help our families that are less fortunate. We usually collect hundreds of gifts for students in need. We would love for you all to continue your generosity of donating to our giving tree. You can bring in an unwrapped toy and we will place an ornament on our tree with your name on it.

Another holiday tradition at Westchester is our holiday store. Our students visit the store and purchase holiday gifts for their loved ones. Thanks to our PTA for organizing this wonderful event for our students.

It really is a wonderful time of the year! I wish all our Wildcats a wonderful winter break! I hope you all have an opportunity to spend some quality time with your loved ones. Relax, recharge, be safe and have fun! See you all in 2023!



Mrs. Geraine



Westchesterelementary



@Newschester



Westchester Elementary PTA

Phone: 754-322-8900

Website: www.browardschools.com/westchester



Nov 28 – Dec 16: Giving Tree

Dec 5 – Dec 9: Holiday Store

Dec 7: SAC Meeting @ 2:30 in Media Ctr.

Dec. 26 – Jan. 6: Winter Break

Jan. 9: Classes Resume

Jan. 12: Full day of school (calendar change)

Jan. 13: Planning Day, No School

Jan 16: MLK Day, No School



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.



Reminder: Our school day begins at 8:00 a.m. The first bell rings at 7:55 and morning announcements start at 8:00 a.m. If you arrive after 8:05, you must come into the front office and sign your child in school. Also, early dismissals end at 1:30 p.m. It is important to know your child's daily schedule. Many times, students are picked up during their lunch or specials. If they are at lunch or specials, this causes a delay in getting them to the front office because they must return to the classroom to gather their belongings. Knowing their schedule helps to expedite this process. Also, if you need to make a dismissal change, please call the office by 1:00 p.m.

Thanks for you cooperation!



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School Calendar Change

IMPORTANT: CALENDAR CHANGE

There has been a change to the school calendar due to hurricane days. Please make note that Thursday, January 12, 2023, and Thursday, April 20, 2023, are no longer Early Release Days. Both days are now a full day of school.



For the holidays, Westchester students have a tradition of helping children who are less fortunate by donating gifts to the *Giving Tree*. The gifts can be for children of any age. Students can bring in new unwrapped books, toys, or games to the cafeteria before school. Each child who donates a gift will receive an ornament with their name on it to place on the tree. We will be collecting gifts until December 16th. We greatly appreciate your giving spirit this holiday season.



Title I provide additional resources to schools with a certain percentage of students who receive free or reduced lunch. The purpose of Title I is to provide supplemental funding that may be used to provide additional instructional staff, professional development, extended learning programs, and other strategies for raising student achievement. You can apply for free or reduced lunch any time during the school year. If you have not applied and are interested, please apply at myschoolapps.com

It's time to POWER UP!

**APPLY ONLINE!
FREE OR REDUCED LUNCH**

Free and reduced price lunches are available to students that meet economic eligibilities.

MYSCHOOLAPPS.COM

The online meal application is available in English, Spanish, Haitian Creole, and Portuguese at MyschoolApps.com. For more information on Meal Benefits, contact the Food and Nutrition Services Department at **754-321-0250**

FREEANDREDUCEDMEALS@BROWARDSCHOOLS.COM

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HOLIDAY STORE

It's that time of year! Our Holiday Store is open Dec 5th - Dec 9th. This is an opportunity for our students to shop and purchase gifts for their loved ones. Students will shop with their class during their scheduled time.

We are always looking for volunteers to assist with the holiday store. If you can volunteer, please sign up at www.westchesterpta.com/volunteer



Order your 2022-2023 Wildcat yearbook now at <https://westchester.memberhub.com/store/items/774158>

Our yearbook sales will continue throughout the school year but there is a little incentive for ordering early!

- October 1st - December 1st cost is \$25 (with free name stamp on yearbook)
- December 2nd - January 15th cost is \$25 (without name stamp) or \$30 (with name stamp on yearbook) This is the last chance for name stamp.
- January 16th - May 15th- \$30 (without name stamp on yearbook)

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Email: westchesterpta.main@gmail.com

Website: www.westchesterpta.com



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