

Wildcat News



“Wildcats are Respectful, Responsible, and Safe!”

John Abernathy, Principal
Elizabeth Purcell, Assistant Principal

September 1, 2015

Welcome Back Wildcat Families, Students, and Staff!

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new and returning families and share our excitement about the upcoming 2015-2016 school year! It is our sincere honor to be a part of such an outstanding school community. Wesley Chapel enjoys a rich history of academic and cultural excellence and we are thankful for our successful partnerships among staff, families, and the community. To our new families, we look forward to getting to know your child and you, as these relationships allow us to help support your child in being all that you hope they will be!

We have been working this summer to increase our own learning and to collaboratively design learning experiences that will help prepare our students for his or her future. One of our priorities is to work on setting goals. We believe that when our children are involved in setting goals for themselves and working toward those goals, success and progress are likely to follow. We look forward to working with you to ensure the greatest success for your child.

This promises to be a year filled with learning and fun. We look forward to sharing this year with you and your child.

John Abernathy, Principal

Elizabeth Purcell, Assistant Principal

School Day Reminders

Arrival

9:20 - Students may enter campus and will be directed to the cafeteria for breakfast.

9:25 – Students released from buses.

9:30 – Students enter classrooms.

9:40 – Our instructional day begins. Students that arrive after 9:40 will be tardy.

Dismissal

3:50 – Please save early dismissals for emergencies only.

Upcoming Events

September 4th:

9:00 a.m. ~ Cafeteria

Student of the Month ~

Celebrating Respect!

9:30 – PTA Meeting ~ Music Room

September 7th:

Holiday, No School

September 11th:

Cookie Dough Fundraiser Begins

September 16th:

Book Fair Begins

September 17th:

Citizenship Day

6:00-7:00 p.m. ~ WCES Open House

September 18th:

Fall Picture Day

September 22nd:

6:00 p.m. ~ Puma Open House

September 24th:

Book Fair Ends

September 25th:

Progress Reports Distributed

October 2nd:

Cookie Dough Orders Due

October 2nd:

9:00 a.m. ~ Cafeteria

Student of the Month



Bus Safety Reminders

- ❑ Always supervise your child(ren) at the bus stop.
- ❑ Remember that our bus stops are often located in front of private properties. Show respect by staying off the lawn, out of the bushes and trees that belong to our neighbors.
- ❑ Stay on the sidewalk while waiting for the bus. Our Wildcats have been reminded to sit or stand patiently while waiting for the bus.
- ❑ Once our students get off of the bus, they are under your supervision. Plan to be at the bus stop to greet your child at the end of his/her school day. If you are unable to be there, communicate a clear plan with your child on how he/she should get home safely.

Students will be expected to meet the following expectations for the bus.

How am I doing?

Bus Expectations

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Be Respectful	Be Responsible	Be Safe
Use quiet voices	Follow directions the first time given	Stay in seat and keep hands, feet, & objects to yourself
Use kind words	All Pasco County rules apply to technology	Keep all body parts inside the bus
Talk to only those in your row		Seatbelt fastened at all times

Car Rider Safety Procedure Reminders

School safety is our priority. Your patience and understanding is important at the beginning of the school year, as our procedures become routines.

Morning Car Riders

- ✓ Please drop off after 9:20 a.m. to ensure proper supervision.
- ✓ Please do not pass vehicles that are unloading while in the car rider line.
- ✓ Tardy bell rings at 9:40 a.m.
- ✓ Parents will need to sign a student in after the tardy bell.
- ✓ Our classroom instruction begins at 9:40 a.m. with the Wildcat News.

Afternoon Car Riders

- ✓ The bus loop is for busses and day care vans.
- ✓ Please use the car rider lane ONLY and remain in the vehicle.
- ✓ Dismissal will begin at 3:45 p.m.
- ✓ Parents must have a school car visor that is to be displayed in the front window or you will have to go to the office for a new one.
- ✓ Please do not pass vehicles that are loading while in the car rider line.
- ✓ Students may not cross the "Car Rider Line" to load in the parking lot unless accompanied by an adult.
- ✓ Please proceed slowly and listen for any instructions from school personnel.
- ✓ Students will be expected to meet the following car loop expectations.



Car Loop Expectations



Be Respectful	Be Responsible	Be Safe
Be silent so you can hear your name	All items including technology remain in your backpack	Sit in assigned area
	Listen for your name to be called	Walk to the pick-up post

Parent Pickup Line Procedures and information:

The Parent Pick up line will be located in the art room. Parents will be required to park at the high school parking lot and walk over on the sidewalk that connects our schools. Please be sure to have your tag with you at dismissal. If it is after 4:00 you will need to pick your student up in front office. In case of rainy days you may choose to still pick up in the art room or proceed to the car line. It is recommended that you do not park in our parking lot as this causes traffic flow problems and safety issues. Parents will not be allowed to walk up and pick up from the car rider line.



Are you in need of before and/or after school childcare for your elementary age child? Then we have the right PLACE for you! The district's PLACE program operates in 40 elementary schools and provides enriching activities, fun clubs and exciting presentations for children, who must arrive at school early, stay late and/or require full day supervision during most school holidays, Winter break, Spring break or the Summer. The trained professional staff cares for over 5,200 students daily beginning at 6:30 a.m.- 9:30 a.m. and 3:50 p.m. and ending at 6:00 p.m. For quality childcare services, PLACE is the place to be! For registration and enrollment information, contact, Wesley Chapel Elementary PLACE Site Manager: Vickie Hagan at vhagen@pasco.k12.fl.us or 813-794-0192.

Change in Afternoon Transportation

If your child has a change in transportation home, please contact the office before 3:15 p.m. We want to make sure your child arrives home safely.

Joining your Child for Lunch

You may join your child for lunch on any day. Due to limited space for our students in the cafeteria, you may need to eat lunch in our courtyard at one of our picnic tables. Unfortunately, a rainy day may mean that we are unable to have you join your child as there is very limited alternative seating. In addition, our policy remains that you may only eat with your child at the designated tables. Finally, remember that our courtyard is not a space for recess, so running and/or ball throwing is not permitted.



Important Pasco County Schools Information:

Pasco Parent Press: <http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/ppp/082015>

Pasco Sheriff's School Safety: PascoSheriff.com/PascoSheriffSchoolSafety

Facebook: www.facebook.com/pascosheriffsschoolsafety

Twitter: @PSOSchoolSafety

Instagram: instagram.com/pascosheriffsschoolsafety

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<http://wces.pasco.k12.fl.us/>

[facebook.com/WesleyChapelElementarySchool](https://www.facebook.com/WesleyChapelElementarySchool)

twitter.com/WCESPasco



W.C.E.S. Online Planner

This year we are piloting an “Online Planner” at Wesley Chapel Elementary. The platform that we will be using is Canvas. A letter was sent home in our opening day packets to create a parent/guardian account. This account will let you access a course, which is how the online planner is set up for the school year. Middle and high school students use this throughout Pasco County but this is a pilot to see how it will work at the elementary school level. As we learn how this platform can best work for us, please be patient! We are excited to learn how this will help us with communication between home and school. We have attached the information about signing up for a parent/guardian account through Canvas.

