

WEST MILLBROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Wildcat News



Welcome Back Wildcats!

We're only a couple of weeks in, but the West Millbrook Wildcats have most certainly hit the ground running.

You may have noticed that we have revamped the *Wildcat News* and hope you will like it. Please take the time to read it through. We have stocked it full of useful information from all areas of WMMS. We hope you will use it to learn more about all wonderful things happening at WMMS and how students AND parents can be involved and support *OUR* school.

Principal Kelly Aman mentions some of the upcoming events in her column on page 2 and there is also a calendar of events on page 8. One of our featured events is the Fall Frenzy! Always a fun evening, this year's event will feature a "Dunk the Teacher" booth, a dance contest, tug-of-war and the ever popular chili and salsa tasting along with some delicious staff-made pies! Please plan to join us on Friday, September 30th from 5:30-7:30 for all the fun!

Here's to an amazing school year Wildcats! We're off to a great start!



September 2016 - Issue 1

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Principal's News



Message from the Principal Kelly Aman

**GO
WILDCATS!**

Welcome back to West Millbrook if you are a returning WMMS family and welcome to our school if your family is new to West Millbrook this year. WMMS family and welcome to our school if your family is new to West Millbrook this year.

I was happy to greet teachers when they returned on August 19 and thoroughly excited to see our students at Catapult 2016 and schedule walk through on August 24. While I was incredibly busy during the summer months, it was also lonely. West Millbrook is at its best when teachers are in classrooms and students fill our hallways and cafeteria. We have a few new faces among our faculty this year and I know you'll join me in welcoming our newest Wildcats: Mrs. Kimel (school counselor), Mrs. Wright (science 6) Ms. McDougald (AU3) and Ms. Wall (school social worker).

My calendar is already brimming with all things middle school and your child will be busy in the upcoming months! Our Fall Open House will be Thursday, September 15. We've retired Cookies and Conversation and this year our 6th, 7th and 8th

grade parents will participate in the fall open house. School pictures are scheduled for Friday, September 23. Remember our Early Release Day on Friday, September 30. Students will be released at 12:30pm and teachers engage in professional learning until 4:00pm. September 30 is also the night of our annual Fall Frenzy!

Communication is vital to the success of our students. We strive to communicate with parents using a wide array of platforms. Each week I record the weekly phone message which is sent out on Sunday evenings. If you are not receiving this weekly phone message please contact the office to update your telephone numbers. The content of the phone message is also emailed out to parents who sign up to receive it via email. The message is also available on the homepage of our website (in English and in Spanish). If you are a Twitter user, consider following us on Twitter. Important and timely information is tweeted regularly. I also utilize REMIND! to send informational text messages. West Millbrook also maintains team email lists for parents. Teams send out information regularly to these email lists. Finally, Parent Portal is the interface providing parents with

real time information regarding grades and attendance.

We have amazing parental support at West Millbrook. Our PTA supports a wide array of academic initiatives and community events at our school, and Athletic Boosters supports our athletic programs. If your student tries to tell you that it isn't cool for parents to volunteer in middle school, please know that is NOT TRUE. The WMMS PTA and Athletic Boosters support the mission of WMMS in a myriad of ways and we would not experience the success we do without their continued support. Please consider joining our PTA and volunteering. All volunteers must register via the online system each school year and registration is open until the end of October. Stop by today - it only takes a few moments to register.

The theme of our school year is #OneExtraDegree. We've been busy determining how we will each give that #OneExtraDegree that makes all the difference for our students. When you're on campus, stop by the 'orange office' and say hello!

School News

Scholastic Book Fair is coming to WMMS! It will run from October 10th – 14th during the hours of 7:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the media center. Family Night is October 12th.

Through our book fair sales last year, we raised \$4,000 to buy books and materials for our media center and Language Arts department at each grade level. Media center and instructional material budgets continue to shrink. When you support the book fair, you make a difference for every child at WMMS.

All students will visit the book fair with their ELA classes and create wish lists to share with you. You can send in money with your child to buy books, come to our family night, or shop our online book fair.

Teachers will have classroom wish lists posted at the book fair, too. Parents, please consider buying a book from the classroom wish lists. Classroom

libraries play an important part in strengthening skills and nurturing a love of reading.

We love our book fair volunteers! Sign up to work a shift or two when the SignUpGenius is posted. We need volunteers to set up the fair, help students find books, and run the register. If you work two two shifts, you'll get \$5 in Scholastic Bucks to spend at the fair as a little "thank you."



West Millbrook Picture Day is Friday, September 23rd

You can shop online *now* for your pictures.

ORDER

Picture Day ID: BW016102Q0

*Submit your portrait order before Friday,

Order your WMMS yearbook now and save!

They can be purchased at:
JostensYearbooks.com
 and are the lowest price of the year
 at \$30 until September 30th.



PTA News



Message from the PTA President Holly Hodges

WELCOME TO THE
2016-2017
SCHOOL YEAR!

The PTA is what connects our teachers and parents and makes our school strong. Please join us in making a difference in your child's education.

The best way to support and stay connected to your students' academic world is to stay as involved as possible. WMMS PTA has lots of ways for parents and extended family to volunteer, and it doesn't take much time at all to make a significant impact to a child's life!!

There is an updated sign up genius for all PTA events that are on the schedule. Please take a look and see where you can help out: [WMMS Volunteer Sign Up Genius](#).

We have an immediate need for a chair to coordinate our Reflections program. Reflections encourages students to express themselves through the arts by submitting their own original work in dance, film, photography, literature, music comp, and visual arts.

To join PTA using our online form - follow this [link](#). Once completed, you can remit payment via check to the school (Attention WMMS PTA) or simply use the link to PayPal below.



Please e-mail westmillbrookpta@gmail.com if you have any questions.

We look forward to working with you this year!

WMMS Annual Family Fall Frenzy!

Friday September 30th, 5:30-7:30 pm
Football Field/ Track- **Admission is free!**

Come join the fun AND dunk your favorite teachers for the fun of it!

- A dollar a DUNK (dunk your favorite teachers!)
 - Gaming truck
 - Food trucks
- DJ/ Dance contests and games
 - Chili tasting
- Staff made pie contest
 - Salsa tasting
- Instagram photo booth
- Grade level banner signing
- Pumpkin size guessing contest
 - TUG OF WAR

Don't miss out on a night of fall fun with your friends and family!



Fundraising News

Our fall fundraiser begins today and we need your help to make it a success. The proceeds from this sale will be used to help create a collaborative commons area for all students!

Featuring: 2016 Cherrydale Brochure *OR* Straight Cash Donations

Sale Starts: Tuesday, September 13th

Sale Ends: Friday, September 30th

Products are tentatively scheduled to be delivered November 1st.

More detailed information will be sent home with students.

If you have any questions regarding the fundraiser, please contact Bentley Williams at bentleywilliams@nc.rr.com.

Shop now by clicking on the graphic!



You still have time to support our school's fundraiser!

Shop Now!



Attention West Millbrook families, we've got a win-win, no hassle fundraiser for our school! The N.C. State Fair will be held October 13-23 this year, and they are offering a partnership that can't be beat!

Here's how it works: Follow the link below to buy Fair tickets, enter the WMMS code under "Membership" at check-out and we will receive \$2 for every adult ticket and \$1 for every child's ticket purchased under your code!

Tickets purchased online prior to 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, 10/13/16 are eligible. The proceeds from this fundraiser will be distributed to WMMS after the Fair.

Here's the link to buy your N.C. State Fair tickets: <http://www.etix.com/ticket/p/3629501?cobrand=ncstatefair16-wakecounty>

When prompted enter the WMMS school code: 608.

That's it! Have fun at the fair!

Club News

Beta Club

The National Junior Beta Club is an academic honor organization that recognizes outstanding scholastic achievement, promotes strong moral character and social responsibility, encourages service to others, fosters leadership skills, and provides settings for students to develop strong interpersonal skills. Open to 7th and 8th grade students with a GPA of at least 3.5 on last year's final report card, applications for membership in the 2016-17 school year will be accepted until 8:05am on 9/20/16.

Faculty Advisor & email: Mrs. Walters - dwalters@wcpss.net

Battle of the Books

Open to all students who enjoy reading and LOVE competition. Three grade-level teams will meet once or twice a month to discuss books and develop quiz-bowl-like questions to help prepare for the district competition in February.

Faculty Advisor & email: Mrs. Walters - dwalters@wcpss.net

Chess Club

Open to all students at any and all skill levels. Meets will be Thursdays after school, schedule TBD.

Faculty Advisor's & emails: Mrs. Seroka - dseroka@wcpss.net or Mr. Massullo - jmassullo@wcpss.net

Student Council

The WMMS Student Council works with advisors to sponsor events and activities for all students throughout the year. It consists of members and officers chosen by the student body.

Faculty Advisor's & emails: Ms. Grapes - agrapes@wcpss.net or Ms. Leary - jleary@wcpss.net

Yearbook

The WMMS Yearbook is published each year by a team of students, along with a faculty advisor. Participating students must have the determination to meet deadlines, as well as a desire to improve photography skills.

Faculty Advisor & email: Chris Youth - [cyouth@wcpss.net](mailto:c youth@wcpss.net)

Please remember to check the *Clubs* page on the WMMS website for updates and more club information: <http://www.wmms.net/clubs.html>.

Sports News

Fall sports season is rapidly upon us! The later start to school this year means tryouts and teams will be formed very quickly – our first home games are set for Wednesday September 21!!

Summer sports camps were a huge hit again this summer – all told, nearly 100 kids attended at least one of our 4 camps offered. The online signup really helped streamline the process this year – thank you to everyone that attended. Camps are a great way to let our coaches see and work with players for the fall season!

Athletic Passes are now on sale and passes sold before September 25th will be entered into a drawing for a Fitbit Alta. Passes are a great way to attend our home games and very quickly become a wise purchase given the cost of gate entry fees. Please click [HERE](#) for the form to join – send in with your middle school student to their PE teacher, or email it to the booster club. (jodi.bulmer@gmail.com)

SCHOOL SPIRIT TASTES GREAT



Make dinner a selfless act by joining us for a fundraiser to support West Millbrook Middle School Booster Club. Come in to the Chipotle at **9504 Strickland Road** in Raleigh on **Monday, October 3rd** between **5:00pm** and **9:00pm**. Bring in this flyer, show it on your smartphone or tell the cashier you're supporting the cause to make sure that 50% of the proceeds will be donated to West Millbrook Middle School Booster Club.



Gift card purchases during fundraisers do not count towards total donated sales, but purchases made with an existing gift card will count.

We have some new sponsors this year – we are so grateful! Galligan Family Dentistry, Carey Rivers with the Angela Drum Realty team and Musicians Learning Center have all stepped up to sponsor the booster club – you guys rock! If you are interested in sponsorship – the details are all right here - <http://westmillbrookboosters.weebly.com/sponsors.html>

We are having our first Spirit Night of the year on **MONDAY OCTOBER 3rd** – at **CHIPOTLE!** The Strickland location has partnered with us and 50% of all mentioned sales that night will come back to the booster club! This is a great way to support our athletics and enjoy some great food too!

The fall season is always busiest for concessions – and we need help to make it a success. Concessions will only operate when volunteers are signed up to do so. Concession money raised goes directly back into WMMS Athletics if the form of new uniforms, coach training, EQUIPMENT... we have been trying to purchase a new Volleyball system for Coach Miterko because ours is ancient! WCPSS gives very little money to support Athletics (less than \$2700 per school for the whole year) so it's up to us to support our kids as best we can.

Athlete Parents are requested to bring a donation to the concession stand. Donation requests are: Candy (any kind, individual packages from BJ's/ Sams/Costco of Sour Patch, Skittles, Starburst – all that kind of stuff. 18 pack chocolate bars, any variety. Soda – ANY and all. Kids love Fanta, root beer, mountain dew, cheer wine... and Gatorade. The medium size (like 16oz.).

Team parents are also asked to take one (1) shift at the concession stand during a time that works for you. Here is the link to our signup: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090445abae2c7-wmms4>

To see the full calendar of events, please check out the WMMS Booster Club webpage: <http://westmillbrookboosters.weebly.com/>

Looking forward to a great year with our athletes and families! ☐

Wildcat CALENDAR:

9/13-30PTA Fundraiser
9/15.....Fall Open House
9/23.....School Pictures
9/30.....Fall Frenzy
10/3.....Spirit Night

To stay up-to-date on all school events,
make sure you visit the school calendar at:

<http://www.localendar.com/public/WMMS>



VISIT US ON THE WEB AT
[WWW.WMMS.NET!](http://WWW.WMMS.NET)

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER:



REMIND 101:

<http://www.wmms.net/remindcom-sign-up.html>

Do you have information to share in the
Wildcat News?

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Important Links for Wildcats...

WMMS Staff Directory: <http://www.wmms.net/directory.html>

PTA: <http://wmmspta.weebly.com/index.html>

Clubs: <http://www.wmms.net/clubs.html>

Athletics: <http://wmmsathletics.weebly.com/>

Athletic Boosters: <http://westmillbrookmsboosters.weebly.com/>

West Millbrook Middle School

8115 Strickland Road • Raleigh, NC 27615

School Hours: 8:15 am - 3:00 pm

Main Office: 919-870-4050

Transportation: 919-805-3030

Fax: 919-870-4064

Media Center: 919-870-4067

Athletics: 919-870-4072

International Families: 919-431-7404

