

# WALHALLA ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

<https://sites.google.com/a/g.oconee.k12.sc.us/walhalla-elementary/home>

A Title I School

The mission of Walhalla Elementary School, in cooperation with home and community, is to develop confident, responsible, productive lifelong learners, by providing a total educational experience in a positive environment.

## November 2018

### Principal's Points

Shanon Lusk

I can't believe we have just completed the first nine weeks of school! I am very excited about all of the wonderful things going on in our school!

**Please remember that students are not allowed to be dropped off at school prior to 7:20 AM. If arriving to school prior to 7:20 AM, please plan to wait with your child(ren) in the car until we start the school day.**

Our PTST Thanksgiving dinner is scheduled for November 12<sup>th</sup>. I hope you will take this opportunity to join us for a great meal and good fellowship. Please be sure to RSVP by Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>.

If you would like to volunteer at our school or chaperone a field trip, the SDOC has implemented a new procedure for completing background checks. Please see page 3 of the newsletter for more detailed information.

I appreciate your support of Walhalla Elementary School. Educating our students is a partnership between the home and school. I encourage you to be actively involved in your child's education. Communication is a crucial factor in the success of our students. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or concerns. I am looking forward to a successful remainder of the school year!

### Walhalla Elementary Fall Dance Fundraiser for the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Washington Trip



Who: 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Graders ONLY

When: Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Where: Walhalla Elementary School Cafeteria

Cost: \$5 per student

Tickets: \$1 Pizza: 2 tickets Drinks: 1 ticket

# Calendar of Events

## November 2018

11/1-11/30	Walhalla United Food Drive
11/4	Daylight Savings Time Ends
11/5	<b>STUDENT HOLIDAY</b>
11/6	<b>STUDENT HOLIDAY</b>
11/12	PTST Thanksgiving Dinner – 5:30 pm
11/12-11/16	American Education Week
11/20	NO GOOD NEWS CLUB
11/21-11/23	<b>Thanksgiving Holidays</b>
11/27	Bojangles Spirit Night 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

## December 2018

12/3-12/7	PTST Santa Shop Week
12/10	Season's Readings at 6:00 pm
12/18	Christmas Program for Grades 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am
12/19	Christmas Program for Grades 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 am
12/20	Christmas Program for Grades K & 1 <sup>st</sup> at 9:00 am
12/20	1/2 day dismissal at 11:00 am
12/20-1/2	Christmas/New Year's Holidays

## Curriculum for Students Christi Hartsock

The teachers and students at Walhalla Elementary have been busy! Can you believe the first nine weeks of school is already over? Here's what's happening in the month of November.

PTST Thanksgiving Dinner will be on Monday, November 12th that 5:30. We look forward to sharing many "thanks" as well as a tasty meal with families and friends!

Canvas: By now you should all be signed up for Canvas. It is an excellent form of communication between you, your child and their teacher! Please contact me if you have any questions.



## Star Students

October 2018

A.B. Phillips – Kinsley Kelley, Lucia Carrera; Rochester – Jase McCall; Bibb – Emrie Sanders, Colt Rowland, Jordan Carbone; Hollifield – Sadie Ratliff, Isaiah Charles, Isla Mae Singer; Morgan – Abbey Gibson, Hayden Crowe, Noah Humphrey; S. Phillips – Ernesto Perez, Camden Sanders; McGuffin – Karlynn Chambers, Eli Cobb; Noe – Emma Webb, Benjamin Turner; Phillis – Ella Gray Hopkins, Bentley Varnadore; Underwood – Alivia Saunders, Mayken Dailey; Watt – Chloe Collins, Colt Hedden; Chappell – Cheyanne Vaughn, Westin Watson; Land – Leila Butterhof, David Hilario; Lusk – Kate Steele, Bradley Mathis; McCall – Abby Rowland, Dayvonte Singletary; Saxon – Sinai Quinonez, William Sitzlar; Beesley – Melany Andrey; Foster – Johnathan Hendrix; Ivester – Molly Roach; Roberts – Nithali Patel; Syck – Corbin Reno; Anderson – Justin Marana, Keslynn Justice; Campbell – Blake Leboeuf, Kiersten Laye; Laye – Sage Singer, Braeden Lee; T. Phillips – Taylor Ballard; Abbott – Isaac Turpin; O'Connor – Tanner Allen; Shepherd – Jenifer Perez; Westbrook – Arnav Nagulapally; Butler – Lilly Edmonds

### Don't Forget to Send in Excuses for Absences, Tardies & Early Dismissals

There has been a change from the SCDE regarding attendance and how long a student must be at school to be counted present for the day. **Per the SCDE, a pupil is counted absent if he/she is not present for greater than 50% of the school day.** The actual calculation (done automatically by PowerSchool) is based on the minutes covered in a school's bell schedule.

A student who misses school must present a written excuse within three (3) days after the student returns to school. If your child was absent but did not go to the doctor, we still need a written excuse, signed by a parent/legal guardian, stating why the child was absent.

Make sure the excuse contains the following information:

- date(s) student was absent
- student's first and last name
- teacher's name

These requirements also apply for tardies and early dismissals.

### **Don't forget to shop for points at Ingles!**

If you shop at Ingles, please make sure our school is listed on your Ingles Advantage Card. Please go to the Ingles website, [www.ingles-markets.com/advantage\\_card](http://www.ingles-markets.com/advantage_card), to register your card. This has to be renewed each school year!



### Volunteer Information

The School District of Oconee County has implemented a new background check system. Background Information Bureau (BIB) provides a more detailed report that a volunteer can complete themselves without giving out their personal information to the school. The cost for the background check is \$19.45. A credit or debit card must be used to pay the fee online. You will receive a copy of your background check by email and within two weeks, a card in the mail. The background check will be good for two years. The school will receive notification of the background as well. **THIS IS THE ONLY BACKGROUND CHECK THAT WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

To access BIB, please follow the guidelines below:

- **USE INTERNET EXPLORER BROWSER**
- Go to the school districts website- [www.oconee.k12.sc.us](http://www.oconee.k12.sc.us)
- Click on the parent link
- Look for the navigation bar on the right, "Information"
- Click on the Background Check to Volunteer
- Read paragraph and then select – Please use this link to complete a background check
- Read the Secure Volunteer information and click on the blue button **I WANT TO VOLUNTEER**
- Follow the steps as you are directed to fill in your personal information and payment

## Literacy Coach's Corner

By Linda Smith

It's hard to believe that it is already November and the holiday season is upon us! It is a busy time filled with family and friends gathering together to share old traditions and maybe create some new ones too! Some of my fondest childhood memories involve sharing holiday stories with my grandparents, my parents and my sisters. I wouldn't be surprised if you also have some of those special memories of reading and watching classic Christmas stories too. I would love to hear about your family's favorite Christmas books/stories! I want to invite you to join us at our **Season's Readings Family Literacy Night on Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**. This year we will be "STEAMing towards a Classic Christmas". The teachers are preparing hands-on STEAM (**S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering, **A**rt, and **M**ath) activities for all of the children who attend to participate in and they are based on classic Christmas books. We will be making sure that all of the students hear the stories prior to the special night so they will be able to make connections to the stories as they complete their STEAM activities. Of course, you can't have a Classic Christmas without Jolly Old Santa himself, so he will be here for photo opportunities as well. We look forward to seeing you all here!

As always, if you have any questions or something that I might be able to help with please don't hesitate to contact me! My email address is: [lsmith4@g.oconee.k12.sc.us](mailto:lsmith4@g.oconee.k12.sc.us).

**Happy Reading, Writing, and THINKING!**  
**Happy Holidays!**

## SchoolPay

The School District of Oconee County has partnered with SchoolPay to assist families in paying for school-related fees with a debit or credit card. SchoolPay allows parents to pay for school lunches, yearbooks, field trips, and any other related cost that may occur throughout the school year.

SchoolPay is also accessible through your child's Powerschool account.

To create an account with SchoolPay, go to: [www.schoolpay.com](http://www.schoolpay.com). You will need your child's student identification number and the name of the school he/she attends in order to register.

## **Mark your calendars!!!**

**The annual Walhalla Elementary School Fun Run and 5K is on March 9th!** We are looking for sponsors for this event. Are you or someone you know interested in sponsoring this event? All sponsor names are printed on the back of participant t-shirts. You may also send it flyers for us to place in the race bags. This is a great way to promote your business and show your school spirit. If you have any questions or if you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact Shanon Lusk, Sara Wright or Debbie Rowland at 864-886-4480.

**Thank you to the wonderful parents who provided treats for Munchie Day! You are appreciated!!**

Daniel Lillie, Toni Hedden, Stephanie Gansen, Marie Turpin, Marleen Perez, Stephanie Pacet, Lisa Wagner, Jamie Graba, Darrell Kanagy, Kyle Voss, Hector Torres, Doug Hedden, Ashley Ball, Jessica Davis, Talia Hoekstra, Missy Ramirez, Damaris Rivera, Candi McCall, Tammy Crane, Daphne Gibson, Heather Lee, Courtney Crowe, Maggie Leon, charity Conrad, Valerie Ratliff, Kerry Nimmons, Kim Moss, Jessica Smith, Glenda Hamilton, Kayla Goodwin, Karis Jetton, Julia Wilson, Chris Robinson, Elisa Quinonez, Lauren Roper, Sena Shirley, Valeri Chappell, Paula Shields, Tracy Tichenor, Venneri Family, Whitney Cantrell, Sheryl Gray, Brandi Shepherd and anyone else who provided something!



**Golden Apple Awards Program**  
**Sponsored by WYFF News 4 & Ingles**

WYFF News 4 & Ingles proudly continue to sponsor the Golden Apple Awards given to deserving teachers. Please stop by our local Ingles store to pick up a Golden Apple nomination form. Using this form, you can share why your child's teacher (past or present) should receive this honor. Each week, an outstanding educator is featured during the Thursday 5:00 pm newscast on WYFF 4.

What a wonderful way to spotlight the wonderful teachers here at Walhalla Elementary School.

Orders are now being taken for the 2018-2019 Yearbook. The cost of each yearbook is \$18.00. If you are interested in purchasing a yearbook for your child, then complete the form on the left and send it in to your child's teacher. **MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: WALHALLA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.**

To order online, visit  
[www.inter-state.com/yearbook](http://www.inter-state.com/yearbook)  
and enter the code: 31485J

**DEADLINE IS**  
**February 1, 2019.**

**Per The Walhalla Elementary**  
**Family Handbook**

Parents are not allowed to bring in, or drop off, specially purchased meals (McDonald's, Burger King, Subway, etc.) for a child's lunch. No child will be allowed to have soft drinks at lunch or snack time.



Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Books: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Cash or Check# \_\_\_\_\_

The cost for each yearbook is \$18.00. Please make checks payable to  
Walhalla Elementary School.

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Yearbook Ads

Looking for a creative way to tell your student, "I love you and I'm proud of you"? Place a recognition ad in the yearbook! What a great way to recreate your student's memories than through an ad saying how you feel about them.

All ads this year will be \$30 and will be on quarter pages in the yearbook. All ads can include two pictures. This can be a baby picture and a 5<sup>th</sup> grade picture or whatever two pictures you choose. It can be just one if you want.

Reserve a space for your ad today to say how proud you are. Like the yearbook, your message will be a permanent memory.

If you have not purchased the yearbook and would like to do so, go to:

**[www.inter-state.com/yearbook](http://www.inter-state.com/yearbook)**  
**Code: 31485J**



### **RECOGNITION AD ORDER FORM 2018-2019**

**Deadline is: November 16, 2018**

Send to: Walhalla Elementary

Sheryl Crook (Yearbook Advisor)

Please feel free to email your pictures and message to:

[scrook@g.oconee.k12.sc.us](mailto:scrook@g.oconee.k12.sc.us)

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \$30 Cash \_\_\_\_\_ or Check # \_\_\_\_\_

(Make checks payable to Walhalla Elem.)

Don't forget to include your photos!

Please write the message that you would like to write to your student on the space provided or on a separate sheet of paper. The maximum amount of words will be 75.

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