



Harrington Waddell Elementary News November 2024



Dear Waddell Families,

I hope you are all doing well. I want to take a moment to update you on our recent developments regarding literacy instruction and the VALLS test.

As you know, this year we have introduced the VALLS test statewide to better assess our students' reading skills in grades K-3. I am pleased to report that we have completed our fall testing, and the results are promising: only 20% of our students in grades K-3 are in need of additional reading support. This is a positive reflection of our students' progress and the hard work of our dedicated teachers.

Our educators have been diligently implementing the use of High-Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM) as part of our new literacy components. This rigorous approach is designed to engage our students more deeply and support their growth as confident readers.

We remain committed to ensuring that every child receives the support they need to thrive. Thank you for your continued partnership as we strive to provide the best possible education for our students. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out.

REMINDERS:

- ❖ Please visit [Kroger.com/communityrewards](https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards) to connect your Kroger Shopper's Card to Waddell Elementary to earn money for our school projects!
- ❖ **Arrival and Dismissal** - Please be sure to read the arrival/dismissal information sent home in your child's Monday folder.
- ❖ **Arrival** - Please drive through the drop-off line between 7:45 and 8:00 a.m.
- ❖ **Water Bottle** - Please send a refillable water bottle for your child's desk.
- ❖ **Breakfast** - \$1.50 or free for free and reduced students who qualify
- ❖ **Lunch** - \$3.00 or free for free and reduced students who qualify. If your child is only purchasing milk, the cost is \$0.40
- ❖ **Monday Folder** - Please check your child's Monday folder weekly.

November Events

- Nov 4 - Fire Drill
- Nov 13 - World Kindness Day
- Nov 13 - LCS SBO Mtg @5:30pm
- Nov 14 - Lockdown Drill
- Nov 15 - "A Day in the Woods" Spirit Day
- Nov 18-22 - American Education Week
- Nov 18 - Interims Go Home in Monday Folders
- Nov 26 - Two-Hour Early Release
- Nov 27-29 - Thanksgiving Break



As the temperatures are getting colder, please make sure your child has a warm coat for outdoors. It would be helpful if their name is in the coat. If your child needs a warm coat, please let us know.



After School Enrichment Winter Program

We will be sponsoring our after-school winter enrichment program second semester. This can only happen with your support. Please email me if you are willing to volunteer and have a skill or talent you would like to share with our students.

Thank you!



Upcoming Events



1. Dec 2 - Fire Drill
2. Dec 11 - LCS SBO Mtg @5:30 pm
3. Dec 20 - Pajama Spirit Day
4. Dec 20 - Two-Hour Early Release
5. Dec 23 - Jan 3 - Winter Break
6. Jan 6 - School Reopens

CHARACTER STRONG FOCUS

THIS MONTH OUR SCHOOL WILL FOCUS ON DEVELOPING THE CHARACTER TRAIT **GRATITUDE**

Nurse's Corner



Recently, our community has seen a rise in cases of children with respiratory illnesses, with some children ending up with “walking pneumonia.” According to the CDC, these illnesses may be caused by *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*. *M. pneumoniae* is a common reason for respiratory illness. Infections are generally mild and present as a chest cold with fever, cough, and sore throat. Sometimes, it can cause a less severe form of pneumonia known as “walking pneumonia.”

For more information about “walking pneumonia” and when to seek treatment, visit

<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/health-issues/conditions/chest-lungs/Pages/Pneumonia.aspx>

Literacy Support at Home

Supporting your child's growth and love of reading outside of school is just as important as supporting their reading in school. Sharing in literacy experiences at home can help your child's reading skills, comprehension, and language. It can also grow your child's interest in reading.

Younger children:

Read books and nursery rhymes aloud
Sing, draw, and tell stories
Help your child build background knowledge

Older children:

Play word games
Talk about word meanings
Ask questions before, during and after reading



American Education Week
November 18-22

Consider taking a moment to write a note or send an email to thank your child's teachers for all the hard work they do each and every day. We are blessed to have a dedicated staff here at Waddell.



PTA NEWS

Thank you to everyone who came out to the Hull's Drive-in Trunk or Treat Movie Night. We loved seeing so many from our community come together and enjoy a beautiful evening under the stars!

As we move into the upcoming season of giving, please consider giving your time and talents by supporting our school PTA. Without the hard work and dedication of our parents and families, we couldn't provide the wonderful activities enjoyed by our students and teachers. These events don't just happen on their own.



Join or donate online today at <https://wesbulldogs.memberhub.com/store>

Please contact Stephanie Johnson at waddellbulldogs@gmail.com for questions about membership, donations and volunteer opportunities.

PTA MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

March 21st - Inaugural Multicultural Event

PTA and our ML Teacher, Rachel Braun are collaborating to bring to our school a family event celebrating the diversity of Waddell's families. We would love your help, please consider supporting our first multicultural family event. Reach out to Stephanie Johnson at waddellbulldogs@gmail.com or Rachel Braun at rbraun@lexedu.org