Message from Mr. Cruz, Superintendent

WC Newsletter September 2022-23
Superintendent/Principal Message

Staff/Student/parents:

Dear parents, teachers, and staff, we had successfully completed 6 weeks of school. This year, Washington Colony will bring back all of the in-person assemblies and activities by continue to follow both the California CDPH and the Fresno County Department of Public Health return to school health and safety guidelines throughout the school day. Washington Colony takes into account all the Health and Safety protocols. Teachers and Support Staff look forward for an exciting year full of learning classroom activities and extracurricular activities for our students.

Our instructional program emphasizes standards-based ELA/ELD, Math, Science, History-Social (H-SS newly adopted curriculum), Science instructional technology learning activities, guided reading, early literacy, Reading, with a specific emphasis in Writing.

Early this year, during back to school night, we had our “Ribbon Cutting Ceremony” for a grand opening of a new “Student Wellness Center” and a new Middle School “Outdoor Learning Pavilion”. The “Student Wellness Center” will incorporate the multidisciplinary team in one location: our School Counselor, School Psychologist, Mental Health clinicians, All-4-Youth program and a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN). Therefore, Washington Colony will continue targeting student Academic and Social & Emotional needs. Also, additional campus construction plans are under way to build a Shade Structure Pavilion in the Elementary K-5 campus and installing a new cafeteria air conditioning HVAC unit.

Also, as part of our comprehensive school safety plan, Washington Colony has hired a Full-Time “Campus Safety Monitor” that monitors all school gates, functions and activities during the school day. Therefore, this year, the school will incorporate more frequent bus evacuation drills, fire drills, lockdown drills as a result of additional campus safety training exercises under our campus safety protocols.

The Reading Lab and the Accelerated Reader (AR) reading supplemental programs are fully implemented and students can choose many titles from an expanded library book selection or MyOn online selection. Students are expected to read independently from 20 – 30 minutes daily at home and maintain current assigned reading logs.

We will continue to provide a positive school climate through the Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS) program. The PBIS team has planned monthly PBIS store reward days and a variety of incentives enhancing the positive school climate through behavior expectations activities, and set up educational assemblies including extracurricular activities and fieldtrips. Washington Colony Students are: 1) Safe; 2) Respectful; 3) Responsible; Prepared; and 5) Follow Directions.
This year Washington Colony emphasizes the importance of daily attendance in order to highly recognize connection between good school attendance and academic achievement. Therefore, the district has hired a Parent Liaison that will provide a system of support in order to increase communication to all families, monitor attendance, and target Chronic Absenteeism. Student Daily Attendance is very important for teachers to utilize as much instructional class time as possible. Therefore, academic achievement increases when students complete a full day of instruction.

Every Minute Counts!!!!

Washington Colony will kick off our virtual PIQE parent workshop starting on October 19, 2022 in the school cafeteria from 6:00pm – 7:30pm. Thank you! parents, for your active participation in school functions and being part of School Site Councils, ELAC/DELAC/PAC committees. We will continue to welcome our families. This month, Washington Colony recently hosted our highly successful Grandparents’ Day!!! Student of the Month Assemblies are coming up next!!

Washington Colony will continue to offer expanded learning opportunities (ELO) such as Tutoring during after school, Saturday Academies and Winter and Spring Interventions Academies programs. Informational flyers will be provided to students.

Thank you for entrusting us to support and educate your children. I am excited to see this year’s progress on Student Academic Achievement.

GO PATRIOTS!!!

“High quality learning experiences are what students deserve to build the future!”

Best Regards,

Jesus Cruz
Superintendent/Principal
"Preparation for the Outdoor Learning Pavilion's Ribbon Cutting Ceremony during Back to School Night"

"Washington Colony's Student of the Month Assembly"

"Washington Colony's Teaching, and Elected FCSS Superintendent Dr. Michele Cantwell-Copher during Back to School Night and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the "MS Outdoor Learning Pavilion" and Student Wellness Center"

"Washington Colony's School Board, Mr. Cruz and the "Student Wellness Center Team" during the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony"
"Mr. Frausto's Kindergarten Music Class in action"

"WC Grandparents' Day September event"

"Washington Colony's ASP Program Students creating and painting Art Projects"

"MS Leadership Class helping out during the Grandparents' Day"
"Ms. Gray's 6th grade class in action
Congratulations to Gwendolyn Garcia! Gwendolyn participated in the Fresno County Office of Education’s “One Voice – The Spirit of 9/12” Art, Poetry and Logo contest. She received a certificate for her involvement for her thoughtful and inspirational submission. We are very proud of you Gwendolyn! Thank you for participating in this event!

Details about the 2023 contest will be available later this year. More information about the Fresno County Office of Education’s One Voice program can be found at https://onevoice.fcoe.org.
Hello Washington Colony parents and family,

Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students access learning opportunities and understand why attendance is so important for success in school.

What to do?

Communicate with the school

Contact your child’s teacher(s) and let them know how to reach you.

Make School attendance a priority

Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day.

Help your children maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night’s sleep.

Try not to schedule dental and non-Covid-19 related medical appointments during the school day.

Keep your child healthy, and if you are concerned about Covid-19, call your school for advice.

If your children must stay home because they are sick or in quarantine, make sure they have asked the school for resources and materials to make up for the missed learning time in the classroom.

Please don’t hesitate to reach out to me the Parent Liaison.

Michelle Soto
(559)-233-0706
Michellesoto@Washingtoncolony.org
Hello Parents of First Graders!

First grade is off to great start! The most important thing is that students are practicing remembering the rules they learned in TK and Kindergarten. Please remind them at home to be good listeners and to stay on task at school. A big goal is for them to be able to work quietly and independently, and we'd appreciate that being reinforced at home.

In Language Arts, we have been reviewing letters, sounds, sight words, and writing at a pretty fast pace and the kids have been working hard!

In Math, we are working on addition through the concept of "number partners," and are learning all the partners that add up to the numbers 5-9, as well as adding and subtracting using 0, which is a challenging concept.

Please continue to help your child with homework. In addition, they are responsible for engaging in reading at least twenty minutes every night (you or someone reads to them, they read to someone, they experience a book through an app or website, an ebook is read to them, etc.) and filling out their reading log.

Please check your child's backpacks daily

It's going to be a GREAT year!

First Graders Rock!
Mrs. Partlow and Mr. Schaffer
6th Grade has been studying about cells in science. We've looked at many specimens including, human skin cells, onion cells, and microbes found in pond water. We will continue our studies to find out what kinds of cells there are and the essential parts that make them the building blocks of life. In Math, we are working on learning how to read different kinds of data displays such as dot plots, histograms, stem and leaf plots, bar graphs, and Venn diagrams. Students have already taken their test for Chapter 1, gotten their first math notebook check, and completed their chapter 1 closure project. Please talk with your student to see how they did on these assignments. Ask your child what they think is in this picture (clue - it's a nonliving specimen)

Mrs. Martinez
Ms. Gray
September Mayhew/Espinosa Third grade

In third grade we are learning new things every day! As we get accustomed to routines and rules, we have been diving into our third grade curriculum. In ELA we are focusing on being able to retell the sequence of events in the story as well as what the main idea is. For writing we are finishing up our personal narratives, making sure to include exciting details from our personal experiences. In math we have been learning about multiplication and division and the different strategies we can use to solve these problems. Students are also becoming familiar with how we will use multiplication to find the area of shapes. In Miss Mayhew’s class they have been learning about what forces are and the different types for science. In Ms. Espinosa’s class they have been learning about where California is in the world. Both classes are working hard on reaching their AR goal for September. If there are any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact us!

It has been a scorching past couple of beginning weeks for school. It provided even more of an opportunity to discuss and learn about the importance of proper hydration. Entry level students have been learning concepts like personal space and boundaries and will move on to object manipulation and developing fine and gross motor skills. Upper-level students have been introduced to concepts such as nutrition and fitness. They are now beginning team sports like football and will continue to have chances to play other sports. Go Patriots!

Mr. De La Rosa Physical Education Teacher
Washington Colony – EAL
2022 – VAR - Girls Softball & Boys Baseball
REVISED - Schedule

VAR - All games are on Thurs. unless otherwise indicated.

Sept.  15 - OC @ WC - HOME
       22 - WC @ WF - away
       29 - WC @ AU - away

Oct.  6  - OC @ WC - HOME
       13 - WF @ WC - HOME
       27 - AU @ WC - HOME

Nov.  1-3 - End of the season - VAR Tourn.

@ WUHS - time TBD!

Teams will be released @ 1:30 for AWAY Games, Bus leaves @ 1:45
Teams will be released @ 1:45 for HOME Games.

Girls VAR, SB starts @ 2:30pm.
Boys VAR, BB starts @ 2:30pm.
End of game @ 4:00pm.
Classroom News

Washington Colony - EAL
2023 - Girls & Boys
REVISED - Cross Country Schedule

Sept. 13 - @ WC HOME
20 - @ OC AWAY
27 - @ AU AWAY
Oct. 11 - @ PU AWAY
25 - Finals @ WUHS

All meets are on Tues. Meets start @ 2:30, walk through @ 2:15.

4th grade runs - ½ mile
5-6th grade run - 1 mile
7-8th grade run - 1 mile

Team will be released @ 1:30 for AWAY meets, Bus leaves @ 1:45
Team will be released @ 1:45 for Home games.
Second Grade: We are settling into our class routines and diving into our curricu-lum a little deeper each day. In English-Language Arts, we have been reading sto-ries about family and friends, and the students are making wonderful connections to their own lives. In Math, we are reviewing addition and subtraction within 20. Please work with your students to practice their math facts. Having them memorized means that they don't have to focus on their facts in addition to the new skills they are learning.

Please remember to fill out your child's reading logs each night! Thanks for all you do for your kids!

Mrs. Pallas

Second grade is off to a great start this year! We have covered so many topics and we have only been in school for 6 weeks! By now, the kids know the class-room norms and what is expected of them in second grade. This month we will continue to cover place value and characteristics in a story.

Parents, thank you for getting your kids to school! I have seen an increase in at-tendance the last few weeks and it has been wonderful!

As always, if you have any questions please call or reach out on Dojo! Have a great month!

Mrs. Garcia

2nd grade
Mrs. Obeid's Class

I'm really proud of my new students! They're working hard! They did different projects. They did a project based on the story "Princess and the Pizza". They wrote a summary of the story and they depicted the events of the story. They also did a project based on the story of "The Dragon Problem". They also depicted the events in the story and wrote summaries. They created their own play scripts and props that they used in their plays. It's been fun! We're looking forward to a wonderful year!

Mrs. Obeid's class - Students' plays and projects
Dear Kindergarten Parents:

Welcome to Kindergarten. Things are off to a good start, as we are all adjusting to the longer day. We have a lot of things planned for this year. If you have any questions about homework, be sure to give us a call. Please talk with your child about listening to the teacher and following directions. We have introduced all of the sounds using the Zoo Phonics animals. Please work on the Zoo Phonics movements and sounds at home. We have begun our Language Arts curriculum. Our first focus standards are speaking in complete sentences and following two or three step directions. In math we are focusing on numbers 1-5 and shapes.

Mrs. Agnew, Mrs. Davis and Miss Garcia
Hello Washington Colony!

I hope the school year has been treating everyone well! I am very excited to share the gift of music to all and have a very productive year! In fact, the fourth and fifth grade classes have begun their musical journeys as they have started to learn how to play the recorder and various instruments, respectively. The Intermediate and advanced bands are also starting to work on music for their winter program! The date is to be announced, so be on the lookout in the future!

--
Edward Frausto
Music Teacher/Band Director
Hello all parents of 3rd 4th grade students:

This is to inform you that your child has been invited to attend Saturday Academy Intervention at Washington Colony. The next one will be on September 24, 2022 from 8:30am to 10:30am. The other dates for Saturday Academies for 3rd 4th graders are October 15th & 22nd, November 5th & 19th, December 3rd & 10th, January 14th & 21st, February 18th & 25th, March 11th & 18th, April 15th & 22nd, and May 13th & 20th. All Saturday Academy times will be 8:30am-10:30am. This is a great opportunity to help your child improve their grades by working on their Math/English skills with expert guidance and help from Ms. Espinosa. Permission slips were passed out to all students but you can request another one from your child's teacher or the office.

HELLO all parents of 6th-8th graders:

This is to inform you that your child has been invited to attend Saturday Academy Intervention at Washington Colony. The session provides intensive help for all students and a chance to make up missing work assignments by attending Saturday Academy Intervention. The next one will be on September 24, 2022 from 8:30am to 10:30am. The other dates for Saturday Academies are October 22nd and November 5th and 19th. All Saturday Academy times will be 8:30am-10:30am. This is a great opportunity to help your child get off the ineligible list if he/she is on it by making up missing work assignments with expert guidance and help from Mrs. Alvarez. Permission slips were passed out to all students but you can request another one from your child's teacher or the office.
Hello!! Mrs. Aragon here...

Washington Colony's English Learner and Special Programs Coordinator. I wanted to let you know about the District English Language Advisory Committee (or D/ELAC) Meeting coming up for any parent who would like to join but especially the parents of students who speak another language besides English at home. In these meetings we keep you informed about the criteria for English Learners to exit the program and about the school spending and testing for these students. We are excited to announce that we will have the PIQUE organization do classes in Social Emotional Learning (SEL) beginning on October 19th at 6pm and that is the date of our 1st D/ELAC meeting. We will have a brief D/ELAC meeting right before the SEL training to discuss D/ELAC leadership roles and redesignation criteria. These Social Emotional Learning classes will continue for 9 weeks so you can learn all about how to help your child deal with their emotions, friendships, and goals in a positive way.

I also wanted to announce that all Washington Colony Students in grades first-eighth should be reading and taking as many AR quizzes as possible to meet their AR goal. You may read and take quizzes at home as well. You should reach 38% of your AR goal by September 30th in order to get the first prize for trimester one, which is a glow in the dark mochi squishy for first-fifth and a colorful silicone bookmark placeholder for sixth-eighth graders. Happy Reading!!
Classroom News

August students of the Month, Character trait: Trustworthy

**Sophia Gonzalez:** Sophia is a trustworthy student. She's reliable, responsible and truthful. I'm glad to have her in my class. I'm very proud of her. She has a positive attitude! Good Job! Mrs. Obeid

**Esperanza Leyton Marroquin:** Esperanza is very trustworthy. She is usually able to follow through with responsibilities asked of her. We enjoy having Esperanza in our class. Mrs. Taylor

**Isaac Pulido:** Isaac Pulido is very trustworthy. He follows the rules and directions. We can always trust that Isaac will do his best. Isaac is a wonderful Patriot 5-Star Student. Great job Isaac! Ms. Garcia (Mrs. Pulido Sub)

**Angelique Maravilla:** Congratulations to Angelique and the Maravilla family. Your student has exemplary character. Angelique is a hardworking trustworthy student who exemplifies a 5 Star Student. She is the kind of student that I can depend on to tell the truth and be honest about everything. Even though we have only been in school together for a short period of time, I can already tell that she has everything it takes to be successful. Keep up the great work. Mrs. Espinosa

**Cesar Aguilar:** Cesar is one of the most trustworthy students I know! He is also extremely honest and helpful in the classroom. Not only is he trustworthy but he works very well with his friends in the classroom. I am so happy to have Cesar in my class this year! Mrs. Garcia

**Yaretzi Lopez:** This young lady has made it known from the first day of school that she is trustworthy. She always does what is asked and always completes her work to her best ability. I can always trust her to make smart choices and help others. I am proud to give Yaretzi Lopez the Trustworthy award for August. Ms. Mayhew

**Yaretzi** is a very responsible and respectful student. She enjoys PE and is always willing to help. Mr. De La Rosa
### Classroom News

**September students of the Month, Character trait: Respect**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Layla McCarthy</td>
<td>Layla is a respectful student. She's always polite to other students, teachers and staff. I'm very proud of her. She's considerate and honors the feelings of others. She treats others the way she would like to be treated. Respect is the key to success! I'm glad to have her in my class. Mrs. Obeid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juliet Cook</td>
<td>Juliet is a responsible, caring young lady who always does her best work. She is a 5-Star Student! Mrs. Dallas</td>
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<td>Emmanuel Esquivias</td>
<td>Emmanuel is very respectful to other classmates and will give other students a lending hand. He also looks out for other students and makes sure that they are taken care of. Emmanuel is a very respectful 5 Star Patriot. Mrs. Partlow</td>
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<td>Joseph Navarro</td>
<td>Joseph (JoJo) is very respectful in our class. He knows the routines and what is expected of him. If he feels he has not followed the rules as expected he will be very polite and take responsibility for his action. We are happy to have him in our class. Mrs. Taylor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adrianna Cuiriz</td>
<td>Adrianna is a very respectful student. She is an excellent example of a 5-Star Patriot student by following rules and direction. Adrianna is always kind and respectful towards her classmates and teachers. Great job Adrianna! Ms. Garcia (Mrs. Pulido Sub)</td>
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<td>Zoe Colores</td>
<td>Congratulations Zoe and the Colores Family. Zoe is a wonderful young lady who is not only respectful but epitomizes all the characteristics of a 5 Star Student. Zoe is polite and she tries her best every day. To know Zoe is to adore her. I appreciate how respectful and kind she is to me and to others. Keep up the great work. Mrs. Espinosa</td>
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<td>Vic Flores</td>
<td>This young man has always shown the utmost respect when talking to adults and peers. He always makes sure to say please and thank you. He listens when talked to. He always follows directions and makes sure to ask politely if he doesn’t understand. I am proud to give Vic Flores the Respect award for September. Ms. Mayhew</td>
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<td>Leslie Huizar</td>
<td>Leslie, a joy to have in class. She is very motivated and a self-starter. She is a wonderful example of a 5-Star Student. Mr. De La Rosa</td>
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<td>Dallas Palmer</td>
<td>Dallas has shown great respect in the classroom and out on the playground. He is always so kind and has great manners! Dallas shows respect by raising his hands to speak, getting out of his seat, and asking questions. He also is respectful to his peers and works great with his group members. I am so proud of Dallas and I can't wait to see what he will accomplish this year! Mrs. Garcia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giselle Urquia</td>
<td>Giselle is very respectful. She raises her hand to talk and waits her turn. She is respectful to teachers as well as classmates. She is a fantastic 5-Star Student. Great job Giselle Mrs. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eveling Rodriguez</td>
<td>Since the first day of school, Eveling has been an outstanding, respectful student. She always raises her hand before speaking, says please and thank you, and is respectful and kind to her friends and all adults on campus. She is a room 2, Five-Star Student! Congratulations, Eveling! Mr. Schaffer</td>
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