



Therefore encourage one another and build each other up,
just as in fact you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

A NOTE FROM PRINCIPAL BROWER

BRIGHT SPOT

Congratulations to our Middle School Christian Character Award Winners.



Each quarter, our middle school recognizes one student from each grade (6th, 7th, and 8th) with the Christian Character Award. Throughout the quarter, students have the opportunity to nominate their peers who demonstrate Christ-like character in their words and actions. It's always inspiring to read the nominations and see how our students notice and appreciate one another's kindness, humility, and service. While many students are deserving of this recognition, three are selected each quarter—one per grade level. Recipients are recorded, and earning this award contributes toward the selection of our Distinguished Graduate at the end of 8th grade.

Congratulations to our Christian Character Award winners for our first quarter: Morgan Arsulowicz (7th), Anna Verbeek (6th) and Adalyn Myers (8th)

WELCOMING A NEW LITTLE FAMILY MEMBER!

Mrs. Ray, (one of our Early Intervention Teachers), her husband, and daughter welcomed Graham William into their family last week! Graham weighed 8 lbs, 10 oz and was 21" long. Mrs. Ray and her new little one are doing well. We are so excited to have another baby join our WSCS family! Praise the Lord!



SPIRIT DAY

FRIDAY, NOV 7 – Students are asked to show their school spirit by wearing their new WSCS t-shirts.

WSCS COMING EVENTS:

November	7	Spirit Day. Students are asked to wear their new WSCS t-shirts
	7	Elementary Praise and Worship at 8:45am
	7	Report Cards
	12, 13	Parent - Teacher Conferences
	14	No School - Staff PD
	20-22	8th Grade Play "Finding Nemo, Jr."
	21	Elementary Praise and Worship at 8:45am
	25	All School Thanksgiving Chapel at 8:45am
	26-28	No School - Thanksgiving Break
December	1-9	All School Service Project - Stuff the Bus
	4	Elementary Christmas Worship Service
	5	Elementary Chapel at 8:45am
	6	WSCS Christmas Marketplace
	8	Middle School Christmas Concert
	12	Elementary Praise and Worship at 8:45am
	19	All School Christmas Chapel at 8:45am
	19	K-8 Early Release - Dismiss at 11:30am for Christmas Break

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES: Fall parent/teacher conferences for K-8th grade are scheduled for next week Wednesday, November 12 and Thursday, November 13. Conferences may be scheduled using the following [link](#).

CONNECT AND GROW: On Thursday, November 13, Mrs. Van Wienen, our school counselor, will be leading another Connect and Grow session focused on ways to understand your own emotions and be better equipped to handle the big emotions our children show. The presentation will be shared at 5:00am and at 6:00 during the evening of parent teacher conferences. Each session is open to 20 people. Please contact the office at 616.453.3925 or school@wschristian.org to hold your spot!

FINDING NEMO, JR.: West Side Christian School's 8th grade class proudly presents Finding Nemo, Jr.! Join Marlin, Dory, Nemo and all your favorite characters under the sea in this heartwarming production that the whole family will love. Follow this [link](#) to purchase tickets for Thursday, November 20 at 7:00 PM, Friday, November 21 at 7:00 PM, or Saturday, November 22 at 1:00 PM.

ELEMENTARY CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE: It is an honor for us to invite you to join us for our Elementary Christmas Service Program on December 4 from 6:30-7:30pm. An invitation is [attached](#) for your information and for you to forward to relatives and friends you wish to invite.

IT'S NOT THAT FAR AWAY: December 6, is the date for our annual Christmas Marketplace. If you're a vendor and are interested in more information, [click here](#).

Need some PTA points? There are several spots available to help out with concessions during the day. [Click here](#) for more information and to sign up.

TRIP

THANKSGIVING WEEK ORDERS: Due to the shortened week of Thanksgiving, TRIP will NOT be processed the week of November 23.

CHRISTMAS ORDERS: It's not too early to start to think about ordering gift cards for Christmas!

HOT LUNCH

Don't forget to set up your payment account on grchristian.familyportal.cloud, under Grand Rapids Christian Schools.

The monthly hot lunch calendars can be found here: [October](#) and [November 2025](#)

Wednesday, November 5: Chicken Drumstick or Breakfast Sandwich

Thursday, November 6: Mini Pancakes or Strawberry Yogurt Parfait

Friday, November 7: Pizza Hut Pizza

Monday, November 10: Cheeseburger or Cinnamon Toast Crunch Cereal

Tuesday, November 11: Cheesy Meatloaf or Strawberry Yogurt Parfait

Please contact Jill Zondag, jzondag@grcs.org with any questions.

PLAYGROUND VOLUNTEERS

Wednesday, November 5

8:15 – 8:30am Elementary: **Volunteer Needed**

12:15 – 12:50pm Elementary: Marianne Krulek / Mike Kelly

1:10 – 1:35pm Middle School: Kimberly Huffman / **Volunteer Needed**

Thursday, November 6

8:15 – 8:30am Elementary: **Volunteer Needed**

12:15 – 12:50pm Elementary: Cara Hendges / **Volunteer Needed**

1:05 – 1:35pm Middle School: **Volunteer Needed / Volunteer Needed**

Friday, November 7

8:15 – 8:30am Elementary: Kim Zondervan

12:15 – 12:50pm Elementary: Katie den Hollander / Tara Hernandez

1:05 – 1:35pm Middle School: **Volunteer Needed / Volunteer Needed**

Monday, November 10

8:15 – 8:30am Elementary: Tony Hernandez

12:15 – 12:50pm Elementary: Sarah Herrmann / Heather LaVigne

1:05 – 1:35pm Middle School: **Volunteer Needed / Volunteer Needed**

Tuesday, November 11

8:15 – 8:30am Elementary: **Volunteer Needed**

12:15 – 12:50pm Elementary: Lori Cox / Stacy Groggel

1:05 – 1:35pm Middle School: Lori Cox / Stacy Groggel

Sign up here: [Playground Volunteer Sign Up Link](#)

TECH BYTE

More help from Protect Young Eyes' Chris McKenna:

Q: "YouTube - Why is it so confusing to set up properly?"

A: "Millions of parents agree with you! I swear no one at Google has children. We've created a massive [YouTube guide](#) because there are so many variables. Restricted Mode is key. But even then, it's never fully "safe."

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

WSCS THEME SHIRTS have been distributed to all staff and students. Special thanks to the PTA for once again purchasing these for our school!

LATE FALL/EARLY WINTER GREENHOUSE-GROWN VEGGIE SHARES COMING SOON! Our middle school students are excited to launch West Side Christian's first-ever Fall/ Winter Growing Season Garden Subscription Boxes! Each share includes freshly harvested produce grown in our school greenhouse.

Want early access? Join our Garden Email List to get the sign-up link sent directly to your inbox this Thursday when it goes live.

Quantities are limited! Don't miss your chance to enjoy fresh, student-grown produce this winter! Click on the [Garden Newsletter Sign-up link](#).

THE GREAT PUMPKIN DROP-OFF: We're learning how God can use old pumpkins to grow something new! Instead of tossing yours in the trash, help us turn it into nutrient-rich compost that will bless our gardens next spring.

- Before you drop off: Please remove all candles, wax, and decorations. We can only accept painted pumpkins with water-based paint.
- Bring your pumpkins to the southwest corner of Westend's parking lot (near the playscape) between November 1–14

Let's care for God's creation, one pumpkin at a time!

LOST AND FOUND: Please encourage your children to check for lost items and claim what is theirs. There are A LOT of items that need to find their way back to their owners. A table and rack with lost and found items has been set up near the gym. After parent teacher conferences on November 12 & 13 all remaining items will be donated.