

# Charter Oak International Academy Calendar of Events 2017 – 2018

\*Find below the anticipated dates for most of our school events this year. However, sometimes changes are made so keep an eye out for information from the school and PTO throughout the year.

8-30-17

<b>September</b>	
Principal's Coffee--8:40-9:30	9/1
<b>Labor Day (No School/Offices Closed)</b>	<b>9/4</b>
Open House/Curriculum Night PreK, K and 1 - (6:00 - 7:30 PM) Childcare provided	9/7
Open House/Curriculum Night Gr. 2-5 – (6:00 - 7:30 PM) Childcare provided	9/14
Peace Day- (Th. 9/21) (8:30 AM)	9/20
<b>*Rosh Hashanah (Judaism) (No School)</b>	<b>9/21</b>
School Pictures	9/20
Student-Led Star Assembly ( <i>PreK-1~ 2:00-2:30; 3-5~ 2:45-3:15</i> )	9/25
Ice Cream Social - (6:00 - 7:30 PM)	9/28
<b>October</b>	
Room Parent/Teacher Meet & Greet 7:45 - 8:45	10/5
PTO (6:00-7:30 PM)	10/5
Principal's Coffee--8:40-9:30	10/6
<b>Columbus Day (No School/Office Closed)</b>	<b>10/9</b>
Literacy Night (6:30)	10/12
Student-Led Star Assembly ( <i>PreK-1~ 2:00-2:30; 3-5~ 2:45-3:15</i> )	10/23
PK-K-1 Masquerade Ball (6:00 - 7:00)	10/26
Grade 1-5 Masquerade Ball - (6:30-8:00 PM)	10/27
<b>November</b>	
Principal's Coffee (8:40-9:30 AM)	11/3
<b>Election Day (No School for Students)</b>	<b>11/7</b>
PTO (6:00-7:30 PM)	11/9
Veterans' Day( <i>Nov. 11</i> ) Assembly and class visits 11/10	11/10 (Friday)
Student-Led Conferences	11/14 - 11/17
<b>Thanksgiving (No School/Office Closed)</b>	<b>11/23 - 11/24</b>
<b>December</b>	
Principal's Coffee (8:40-9:30 AM)	12/1
FRC Family Academy (Saturday)	12/2
PTO - (6:00 – 7:30 PM)	12/7
Winter Concert (AM and Evening) – (7:00 PM)	12/13
Student-Led Star Assembly ( <i>PreK-1~ 2:00-2:30; 3-5~ 2:45-3:15</i> )	12/18
<b>Winter Break</b>	<b>12/25 - 1/1</b>
<b>January</b>	
PTO - (6:00-7:30 PM)	1/4
Principal's Coffee (8:40-9:30 AM)	1/5
Bingo Night - (6:30 PM)	1/12
<b>MLK Jr. Day (No School)</b>	<b>1/15</b>
Student-Led Star Assembly ( <i>PreK-1~ 2:00-2:30; 3-5~ 2:45-3:15</i> )	1/22
FRC Play Rehearsal(After school, Fri. daytime/evening)	1/22 tryouts
FRC Play - Afternoon and evening (7:00 PM)	1/26

<b>February</b>	
PTO (6:00-7:30 PM)	2/1
Principal's Coffee (8:40-9:30 AM)	2/2
Magnet Open Houses	2/8 and 2/22
Math/Science Night	2/15
<b>Winter Break</b>	<b>2/19 - 2/20</b>
Student-Led Star Assembly ( <i>PreK-1~ 2:00-2:30; 3-5~ 2:45-3:15</i> )	2/26
<b>March</b>	
Principal's Coffee (8:40-9:30 AM)	3/2
Student-Led Conferences	3/6 - 3/9
Career Day (AM Grade 5)	(Not Thursday)
PTO (6:00 - 7:30)	3/15
FRC Family Academy (Saturday)	3/24
Cultural Celebration	TBD
Student-Led Star Assembly ( <i>PreK-1~ 2:00-2:30; 3-5~ 2:45-3:15</i> )	3/26
Art Show Grand Opening Before School	3/29
<b>Good Friday (Christian) (No School)</b>	<b>3/30</b>
<b>April</b>	
SBAC Assessment tests (Make-ups will extend beyond)	4/3 - 5/11
Inquiry Gallery (6:30 PM)	4/5
Principal's Coffee (8:40-9:30 AM)	4/6
<b>April Break</b>	<b>4/9 - 4/13</b>
PTO (6:00-7:30 PM)	4/19
Student-Led Star Assembly ( <i>PreK-1~ 2:00-2:30; 3-5~ 2:45-3:15</i> )	4/23
COIA's 1st Annual Week of Action	Week of 4/23
Suzuki Concert	4/24
<b>May</b>	
Kindergarten Orientation Evening (6:30)	5/3
Principal's Coffee (8:40-9:30 AM)	5/4
New Pre-K families visit (AM)	5/4 and 5/7 (possibly 5/30)
Spring Concert (AM and PM) (7:00 PM)	5/9
Bike to School Day	5/9
PTO (6:00-7:30)	5/10
Kindergarten Registration Days	5/14(Current) 5/17, 5/18
Field Day	TBD
Inter El Tour Day (Select Grade 4 and 5 Musicians)	5/18 (PM)
Volunteer Tea (2:00 PM)	5/21
Inter El Evening at the Bushnell	5/24
<b>Memorial Day (No School/Office Closed)</b>	<b>5/28</b>
<b>June</b>	
Principal's Coffee (8:40-9:30 AM)	6/1
Picnic – (5:30 PM)	6/1
PTO (6:00 - 7:30)	6/7
Career Day (AM Grade 5)	TBD
Townwide Track and Field Invitational at CHS – Gr. 5	TBD
Townwide Track and Field Invitational – Rain Date	TBD
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Recognition (Evening)/Exhibition - (?)	TBD
Last Day of School / Talent Show	6/11*TBD based on snow days

# Inquiring Families Want to Know About...

<b>Principal's Coffee</b>	Join the PTO/FRC for a discussion with Mr. Melián in the FRC. Light refreshments will be served (children are welcome to come with parents).
<b>Open House/Curriculum Night (Grades PK-1)</b>	Important evening event for <u>parents</u> of students in Pre-K, Kindergarten and Grade 1 to attend. Spend time in your child's classroom becoming <b>knowledgeable</b> about the coming year and how you can support your child's education at COIA. Meet other adults in the building who will work with your child. Great opportunity to meet other families! Childcare is available: Please RSVP for childcare to Barb Scully (860) 233-8506 x5554 or <a href="mailto:barbara_scully@whps.org">barbara_scully@whps.org</a> if you need childcare.
<b>Open House/Curriculum Night (Grades 2-5)</b>	Important evening event for <u>parents AND students</u> in grades 2-5 to attend. Spend time in your children's classroom(s) becoming <b>knowledgeable</b> about the coming year and how you can support your child's education at COIA. Meet other adults in the building who will work with your child. Great opportunity to meet other families! Childcare is available for younger siblings, please RSVP to Barb Scully (860) 233-8506 x5554 or <a href="mailto:barbara_scully@whps.org">barbara_scully@whps.org</a> if you need childcare.
<b>Peace Day</b>	Join us as we wear white (to symbolize peace) and celebrate the United Nations' International Day of Peace with student and guest presenters and to plant our "pinwheels for peace." This year's theme, <i>Together for Peace</i> , will support our IB Mission to make the world "a better and more peaceful place." Lots of volunteers are needed to help assemble pinwheels--contact Mrs. Drown ( <a href="mailto:penelope_drown@whps.org">penelope_drown@whps.org</a> ) if you can help!
<b>School Pictures</b>	Be on the look-out for order forms that will come home with your child in early September. Then make sure they are ready to say "Cheese!"
<b>Student-Led Star Assemblies</b>	Monthly assemblies, led by our fifth graders, celebrate student learning and Action. Parents are always welcome to attend and are contacted if their children are STAR students or if they are performing.
<b>Ice Cream Social</b>	Socialize with other Charter Oak families while enjoying local ice cream and fresh squeezed lemonade served by "COIA celebrity scoopers and squeezers." Enjoy the school garden and playground while you learn more about the PTO and our IB school!
<b>Room Parent/Teacher Meet &amp; Greet</b>	Room parents are invited to this breakfast where they can get to know the teachers and start building their relationship for the year!
<b>PTO Meetings</b>	EVERYONE is welcome! The PTO offers free childcare and complimentary pizza for the kids. Adults bring items for a shared potluck dinner to enjoy while discussing important school topics including PTO events and activities.
<b>Literacy Night</b>	Bring the whole family and join in on various activities all over the school that promote literacy.
<b>Masquerade Balls</b>	Dress up and dance the night away! Each year the PTO puts on a Masquerade ball for our families with a DJ, photobooth and refreshments for sale. There are separate balls for PK-K-1 (Thurs) and grades 1-5 (Fri), but of course for families with children in multiple grades can attend either or both!

<b>Veterans' Day Assembly and class visits</b>	Families are invited to join us for a morning school-wide assembly to honor and thank local veterans. Then veterans visit classrooms for more discussions with the students. Learn the power of peace from those who have worked to preserve it.
<b>Student-Led Conferences</b>	At Charter Oak, students run their own conferences (with a lot of preparation work with their teachers!) Learn about your child's progress as s/he shares work samples and reflections. Be amazed by your child's independence, commitment and confidence as s/he sets goals for learning.
<b>FRC Family Academies</b>	These two Saturday morning events offer families a chance to be IB learners together as they participate in a variety of interactive workshops offered by Charter Oak and FRC staff and community members. Breakfast and snacks are provided, too!
<b>Winter/Spring Concerts</b>	Students in band, chorus & orchestra perform for the school during the day and families at night.
<b>Bingo Night</b>	COIA has an annual Bingo Night with teachers and staff as "celebrity" Bingo callers! There will be refreshments available for purchase. We love to have small donations for prizes. As always, volunteers are welcome to sell Bingo cards, serve food, or organize prizes.
<b>FRC Play</b>	Students in grades 2-5 audition for, rehearse and perform a play...all in one week! The play is performed for the school during the day on Friday and for families that night.
<b>Magnet Open House</b>	This event is for families who are considering sending their children to Charter Oak as magnet students and provides information about our programs and the process of applying.
<b>Math/Science Night</b>	Bring the whole family and join in on various activities all over the school that promote math and science.
<b>Cultural Celebration</b>	This Saturday event celebrates the many cultures and countries that make up our school community. Visit country displays in a way that highlights the IB elements; view a cultural performance; and enjoy a delicious intercultural potluck.
<b>Art Show Grand Opening</b>	Join us before school to walk around with your child and view the beautiful pieces that our students have created and selected to display for the art show. There is also a reception area with light refreshments.
<b>SBAC Assessment tests</b>	Statewide testing for students in grades 3-5 that spans from April-May. Stay tuned for more specific information for your child's class.
<b>Inquiry Gallery</b>	Evening event for families to be IB learners together as they participate in the inquiry process with their children. Families are invited to move throughout the school to learn at different grade levels and in specials like PE, Music, Art, World Languages and Library.
<b>COIA's 1st Annual Week of Action</b>	Join us as we take Action to make our community a better and more peaceful place. Look for an invitation to share your ideas as we plan this new event!
<b>Suzuki Concert</b>	A violin program for young students based on the Suzuki method. Students are selected from a lottery in Pre-K. At this concert Suzuki students perform for the school during the day and for families at night.
<b>Kindergarten Orientation Evening</b>	Evening meeting for parents of incoming kindergarten students. Meet the kindergarten teachers, learn about the International Baccalaureate philosophy, and school and district procedure . Childcare is available, Please RSVP to Barb Scully (860) 233-8506 x5554 or <a href="mailto:barbara_scully@whps.org">barbara_scully@whps.org</a> if you need childcare.

<b>Field Day</b>	Join us for a day of fun as students move through a series of interactive stations led by COIA teachers and parents. Students run, jump, throw and catch as they work in grade level groups. Many volunteers are needed to make this day fun for everyone!
<b>Bike to School Day</b>	Charter Oak participates in the National Bike to School Day. This day helps to recognize the importance of exercise and an alternative method for getting to school that is friendlier for our environment! Students and their families are invited to ride their bikes to school. Some of the West Hartford police officers on bicycles also join us! At the beginning of the school day, we will take a group ride around the Sterling Field track. Students are asked to bring locks to secure their bikes during the day on the school's bike rack. And of course- helmets are required!
<b>Inter El Tour Day</b>	Grade 4 and 5 Musicians are invited to audition and are selected to participate in the Inter-Elementary Chorus, Band and Orchestra. On tour day, one group visits each elementary school to perform.
<b>Inter El Evening at the Bushnell</b>	Grade 4 and 5 Musicians are invited to audition and are selected to participate in the Inter-Elementary Chorus, Band and Orchestra. The culmination of this experience is an evening performance at the Bushnell. Tickets can be purchased through the music department.
<b>Volunteer Tea</b>	COIA is the perfect example of the saying "it takes a village!" We appreciate all our wonderful volunteers who help out throughout the year in many different ways. We invite them all to join us for a "tea" at the end of the year as a token of our appreciation.
<b>School Picnic</b>	Spring Picnic is a family event held on the main playground. There are inflatables, hot dogs and hamburgers, and so much more! Many volunteers are needed to make this event fun for everyone!
<b>Career Day</b>	Grade 5 students meet with professionals with a variety of careers to learn about career options and the type of skills that are needed to successfully do each type of work. If you have--or know of someone--who might be willing to share their "dream job," please contact IB Coordinator, Kirsten Sanderson. <a href="mailto:kirsten_sanderson@whps.org">kirsten_sanderson@whps.org</a>
<b>Town-wide Track and Field Invitational at CHS – Gr. 5</b>	5th grade students are nominated by their P.E. teacher to participate in this event which takes place at Conard High School during the school day.
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade Recognition (Evening)/Exhibition</b>	The culmination of an IB Primary Years Program is the capstone project called "Exhibition." Fifth graders work in groups to select a globally significant, locally relevant topic to research then go public with their learning using varied modes of presentation. There are several day and evening times for students to share with the entire COIA community. Following the evening presentation, join us in the auditorium to celebrate our fifth grade students followed by refreshments in the cafeteria. Fourth grade parents volunteer to serve refreshments.
<b>Last Day of School / Talent Show</b>	Every year we celebrate the last day of school with a school-wide talent show. Classes and families are invited to join us on the field and bring blankets and chairs to be entertained by all the wonderful talent at Charter Oak. Students must "audition" for the talent show the month before and attend an after-school rehearsal as well. They are welcome to perform as individuals or in small groups. You'll see everything from song and dance routines, to guitar playing to comedy skits and more!

# Some Other Charter Oak/IB Terms You Might Hear and Wonder About...

<b>Explorations</b>	COIA offers a variety of after-school enrichment programs for all students K-5. These courses are taught by staff members, community organizations and even parent volunteers! Students sign up for choices that interest them and are placed in sessions based on their interest and the creation of balanced classes. Be on the lookout during the early fall for a brochure with choices and sign-up sheet.
<b>Homework Center</b>	Students in grades 1-5 are recommended by their teachers for this program where they can receive extra support with homework.
<b>Student Created Video Announcements</b>	Check our website every Monday, Wednesday and Friday for our student created video announcements! Students (mainly grades 3-5) work with our ICT teacher to create video announcements for the school. These videos highlight upcoming events, examples of IB learning happening around the school and other important issues that students identify. They are posted on our website for classes and families to view and discuss!
<b>Deep Roots</b>	This COIA community group is committed to making Charter Oak an environmentally friendly place that promotes sustainable practices, healthy eating of locally sourced food, and teaching children to appreciate nature. They facilitate the school's fall and spring Farmers' Markets, coordinate the weekly Salad Bar and help maintain our school gardens... and so much more. Keep your eyes out for meeting info and come join us to learn more!
<b>Farmer's Market</b>	Each fall and spring, the West Hartford non-profit organization, Growing Great Schools, sponsors Farmers' Markets in district schools. See how Charter Oak's Deep Roots team and IB philosophy make ours unique (and extra fun!) Join us in the School Gardens and surrounding areas to try and buy tasty food and learn about a variety of sustainable practices while enjoying live music and participating in fun activities!
<b>IB Inquirers</b>	These newsletters come home for each of the six (four in pre-k) IB units your child(ren) participate in during the school year. The last page includes each of the IB elements highlighted in the unit. We invite families to share how your child demonstrates these IB elements at home either by filling out the form or emailing a description and/or photo to Diana Coyne <a href="mailto:diana_coyne@whps.org">diana_coyne@whps.org</a> who will share it digitally with our school community. Students who demonstrate IB at home receive an IB at home bracelet each month as part of our school wide assembly.
<b>IB Elements</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Learner Profiles</i></li> <li>• <i>Attitudes</i></li> <li>• <i>Approaches to Learning</i></li> <li>• <i>Key Concepts</i></li> <li>• <i>Transdisciplinary Themes</i></li> <li>• <i>Action</i></li> </ul>	Sometimes it might feel like there's an entire IB language- don't be overwhelmed! As we go throughout the year we'll share more about the many components of IB. Follow this link <a href="http://charteroak.whps.org/ib">charteroak.whps.org/ib</a> to learn more about IB at Charter Oak!

