



Westlake Charter News

Volume 1, Issue 3

April 4, 2008

Principal's Corner

Spring is here and we are looking forward to lots of "new" things here at WCS.

In addition to interviewing for 3 new classroom teachers, we are also adding on an additional fulltime Spanish teacher and a curriculum support teacher who will be supporting the teachers in the creation and implementation of exciting curriculum!

We appreciate WAVE's generous financial support to the school which is vital to adding a full time Spanish teacher in 2008-2009.

A Spring "makeover" is also in the works! Our garden is in bloom, thanks to the hard work and efforts of our gardener and students. Ms. Arzaga will be working on her vision of murals on the N Wing, incorporating student work into the project. We will be planning more clean-up days to spruce things up including landscaping and a large mural for the front of the school. We are also reserving some of our WAVE donated funds for purchasing additional playground equipment, benches and signs.

Here at Westlake Charter School we are aspiring to excellence in all areas-academic, social, behavior. A key element to achieving this is developing a culture of respect.

It is important that we demonstrate and model this respect to our students at school and at home. Respect includes supporting each other and not talking about others in a way that is mean, hurtful, or not positive. We expect that students are respectful to each other, students and adults at school are respectful to each other, adults at the school are respectful to each other, and that parents and teachers are respectful to each other. Please be sure that adult concerns or questions about staff or the school are shared with other adults only. When we present a united front of support and respect to our students, this translates into the development of a cohesive environment of respect school wide.

Westlake Charter School

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staff is a memorable experience they will never forget. And this was just the tip of the iceberg!

Hiking with Ms Burwinkel. An afternoon spa with Ms Mendoza. Lunch with Principal Smith. What, you might ask, are all these? These are just a small example of the special and fun excursions our teachers and staff donated for the Auction last year. What an end-of-the-year treat for the kids. To have such a personal time with one of our great

staff is a memorable experience they will never forget. And this was just the tip of the iceberg!

Being a member of Westlake Charter School is more than just coming to class Monday to Friday. This is being part of a family and it's what make our school exceptionally great. Here, teachers and parents work closely together to broaden the learning of our children beyond the classroom. It was Rachel Louise Carson who said, "If a child is to keep alive his inborn sense of wonder, he needs the companionship of at least one adult who can share

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Parent Participation Opportunities

Here is a current listing of opportunities to earn hours. It's also a great way to learn what's happening, get involved, and meet great people.

- **Board meeting** April 8 @ 6:30pm, Rm N5
- **Auction Planning meetings**
 April 8 @ 7:00pm, Spanish room
 April 19 @ 9:00am, Barnes & Noble Café
 April 23 @ 7:00pm, Spanish room
 Tracy Roman 649-3259 or romanclan5@yahoo.com



- **WAVE meeting**
 April 15 @ 6:30, Rm N3
 Elections. Come and cast your vote!
- **Thank You Thursdays (April 24)**
 Help our Hospitality Team say "Thanks" to our staff this month
 Danielle Steuben 927-4558 or danielle.steuben@doj.ca.gov
- **Creek Clean-up**
 April 26 @ 9:00am, Steelhead Creek
 Cynthia Ortiz 515-1786 or ortizlink@sbcglobal.net

- **Yard duty**—help us give the kids more freedom to play in both the playground and the fields during recess. Plus it allows the school to put additional staffing \$ into the classrooms instead! Contact the office.

- **Campus monitoring**

- **Library help**

Wednesdays and Thursdays



Family Fun

Here are some fun ideas to do this month. Go with other Westlake families or maybe you'll meet some there and make some new friends.

PJ & Game Night—April 18 @ 6:00-8:30pm



Come in your PJ's, play some games, and just have a fun evening with other families! Best of all, it's FREE!!!

Location: NMS multipurpose room

Brought to you by the Community Building/Hospitality Team.

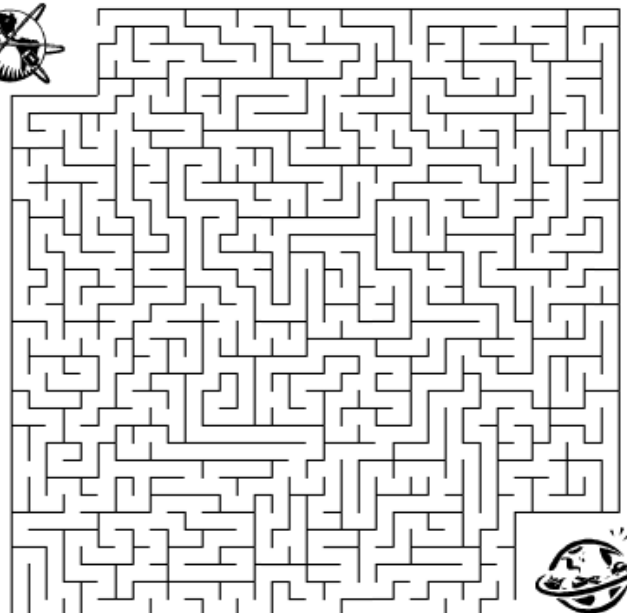
Creek Clean-up— April 26 @ Steelhead Creek

First we clean, 9-11:30 a.m.. Then we celebrate, 12-2:00 p.m. at the Discovery Museum with a barbecue, live music, games and contests. Environmentally minded groups and city and county programs will have booths, free exhibits and fun activities. Turn in your sign-up sheet or contact Cynthia at 515-1786 or ortizlink@sbcglobal.net



Earn Parent Hours at the same time!

Got an idea or group/club and would like to invite fellow Westlake families? Email newsatwcs@gmail.com



School News

(Continued from page 1)

it, rediscovering with him the joy, excitement and mystery of the world we live in". That is the heart of this school.

But the school cannot do this alone. It takes the dedication of our families. Our support provides the school the means to give our kids the extras: Arts, PE, and Spanish. In a time of budget cuts, we are able to hire a second full time Spanish teacher so that we can get back to our vision of Spanish 5 days a week. Isn't that great? This is what all our hard work this year means for next year and the years after.

So let's keep our dream growing. We are not limited by how big we can dream, but how hard we work to make it a reality.



Rachel Louise Carson (May 27, 1907 - April 14, 1964) was an American marine biologist and nature writer whose writings are credited with advancing the global environmental movement.

Source: Wikipedia

You won't want to miss this...

Our student's artwork will be on exhibit at the State Capitol April 14–28th. So grab your family and friends and come check it out!



... and check out the new WCS website



Jude Hansen and our Communications Team has been hard at work revamping our website making it more user friendly. Check out the Calendar (which can be integrated to Outlook, Google, etc) and the job board on the Parent Participation page. It's now easier to keep up-to-date on what's going on.

An exceptional student...



Jessica Corr is a talented and engaging 2nd grader in Ms Thorall's class. What makes her even more extraordinary is her selflessness. For the past two years, she has invited her birthday party guests to donate to her choice of charity in lieu of gifts. Last year she supported the Sacramento Children's Home. This year she decided to support Westlake.

Jessica has graciously donated \$346 to the "Night in Natomas" Auction event as a Family Sponsorship. **Thank you, Jessica and the Corr family!**

Night in Natomas



We need your help!

- **DONATIONS!! DONATIONS!!**
- **Items due May 1** (see accompanying page for donation forms)
- Help collect and organize donated items
- Corporate sponsorships
- Family sponsorships
- Food: get local restaurants to donate
- Decorations: set-up and clean-up
- Beer and wine donations
- Bar coordinator (Event day)
- Bartenders (event day)
- Drink ticket sales coordinator (event day)
- Drink ticket sales table volunteers (event day)
- Event ticket sales coordinator
- Event ticket sales volunteers (starting May: International Festival, before/afterschool, event day at the door)
- Security
- Banquet tables
- PA system
- Center pieces
- Table linens

Contacts:

Lisa Corr lcarr@smymlaw.com

Tracy Roman romaclan5@yahoo.com

Support Westlake

Did you know...

... the best way to support our school is **to make sure your child arrives to school on time?** Being 30 min late or absent means the school does not get to collect the Student Average Daily Attendance (ADA) Funds. That's a loss of about \$30/student each time! So please plan doctor and dentist appointments accordingly.

... that because of the success and your continued support through WAVE, **we will be able to hire a second full time Spanish teacher and a Curriculum Coordinator next year?** This means increased instructional Spanish time. And a more cohesive curriculum for our school.

... there are plenty of ways to **earn Parent Participation Hours outside of school time?** Talk to your child's teacher for take home work. Donate treats for 'Thank You Thursdays'. Or volunteer for one of our upcoming weekend events (Creek Clean-up, International Festival, 'Night in Natomas' Auction)

Announcements

- **Camp Invention**—A summer camp program to be held at Westlake and sponsored by Ms Thorall. For more information, visit www.campinvention.org or contact Ms Thorall at 567-5760 christina.thorall@gmail.com
- **Recycle Fridays**—Ink cartridge and cell phone recycling is joining Recycle Fridays. A drop box right by the playground gate will soon be coming in April. Just send your cartridges and phones to be recycled and have your child drop it in the box on the way to class! So simple!
- **International Festival** is May 17th. Planning is starting. Think of how you can share your culture with our students.
- **"Night in Natomas" Auction** is June 7th. Please think of the many different ways you might be able to make this event a success. Auction items are now being accepted!
Contact: Lisa Corr lcarr@smymlaw.com or Tracy Roman romanclan5@yahoo.com

Contact information

Principal	Christine Smith	admin@westlakecharter.com	567-5760
Board	Phil Nanni	pcnanni2004@yahoo.com	
WAVE	Peggy McAllister	wave@westlakecharter.com	419-6057
Communications Team	Jude Hansen	judehansen@gmail.com	564-1932
Fundraising Team	Open Chair position contact WAVE		
Community Building/Hospitality	Danielle Steuben	danielle.steuben@doj.ca.gov	927-4558
Family Nights Out	Ann Alan	amalan72@aol.com	515-4768
Box Top	Tanya Carter	tanyacarter@comcast.net	419-9798
Ink Cartridge Recycling	Greg Zumstein	g_zumstein@hotmail.com	359-7617
eScrips	Toni Coleman	colemanfive@sbcglobal.net	419-9015
My School Matters	Lisa Casalegno	myschoolmatters@westlakecharter.com	502-5550
Parent Participation	Laila Cifolleli	cheflaila@sbcglobal.net	207-6746
Parent Hours Recorder	Sherri Sanders	wcs_vol_hrs@yahoo.com	



For questions, comments, or to submit information to be included in the newsletter, please email newsatwcs@gmail.com. Please note that all information must be submitted by the 5th of each month. Content is subject to the approval of the principal prior to publication.



We hope to make this our biggest fund raiser yet! However, **WE CAN NOT DO THIS WITHOUT YOU!** We need donated items for the auction. The following is our wish list for this year's auction, but it is our starting point only. This auction will be limited only to our creativity and resourcefulness as a Westlake Community. **Get creative** and tell us what wonderful items or services are missing from our list that you can provide:

Transportation:

- Car
- Motorcycle
- Scooter
- Bike

Vacation

- Airline tickets/vouchers
- Vacation home/weekend getaway
- Cabin Rental
- Hotel Stay

Exercise

- Sporting Goods
- Gym Equipment
- Camping Equipment

Tickets

- Sporting Events
- Concerts
- Plays
- Outings

Specialty

- Celebrity Meeting
- On-set Television Tour
- Politician Meeting

Electronics

- Camera
- T.V.
- IPOD
- Cell Phones
- Digital Video Cameras
- Digital Frames
- Stereo Equipment

Certificates

- Spa
- Manicure/Pedicure
- Restaurant
- Dry Cleaning
- Gymnastics
- Karate
- Gym
- Kids Park
- Internet Shopping
- Massage
- Movies

Services

- Personal Shopping
- Personal Chef
- Dessert Chef
- Cleaning
- Landscape
- Babysitting
- Photography
- Handyman/woman
- Home improvement

Art

- Crafts
- Needlepoint
- Crochet
- Quilt
- Sewing
- Jewelry
- Custom painting
- Photography
- Ceramics
- Stained Glass
- Framed Prints
- Original Art Work
- Sculpture

Donor Name _____ **Contact info (phone and/or email)** _____

Item Donation (Please describe for catalog):

Fair Market Value Estimate (Required): \$ _____

Cash Donation: \$ _____

Item Availability (check one):

- _____ Item will be delivered to school
- _____ Item needs to be picked up. Call _____
- _____ Item will be delivered to Auction

Certificate Needed? If the item isn't physically available for the auction, please supply the auction committee with a certificate. If you would like the auction committee to create a certificate, please check here: _____

Please list any items that you would like to see up for Auction (something you might be interested in buying):



Thank you for your contribution!

Auction Committee