

Parent Newsletter

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The mission of Wheaton Academy is to nurture growth in students through relationships, excellence and service to the glory of God

With so much going on at Wheaton Academy, we want to share highlights of the semester thus far and to note events you will want to add to your spring calendar.

Easter Reflection

Recently, I read an interesting observation: We start celebrating Christmas right after Halloween, but somehow Easter can sneak up on us even though it is the most significant, profound day that we celebrate. As I think of Holy Week, the events in the Garden of Gethsemane and on Good Friday impact me deeply; Jesus' conscious decision to lay down his life in an amazing display of love and grace often confounds me.

At Christmas, I find great comfort and hope in thinking about the names of God and contemplating that Jesus is Immanuel—*God with us*. On Good Friday and in the Garden, we see the ultimate demonstration of *God with us*. We see Jesus, in his humanity, care for his disciples as they betray and desert him. We see Jesus, in his humanity, heal one who deserves vengeance and wrath. We see Jesus, in his humanity, thirst. And we see Jesus, in his humanity, cry out in victory for all of time, for all of us: "IT IS FINISHED." In his humanity, *God with us* redeemed you and me.

As you ponder our Savior and his great love for us this Easter season, I encourage you to reflect on the truth that Jesus is not only the Son of God, but He is also Immanuel—*God with us* in every part of our humanity. And I encourage you to consider the effect of living life in the freedom of "IT IS FINISHED"—trusting, obeying, and seeking God in the reality of being fully human and fully redeemed.

Thinking Ahead for Summer

Parents and students alike look forward to summer break. Whether you are taking a family vacation, visiting out-of-town family, or just "stay-cationing," the summer provides a break from routine. We encourage parents to be proactive and thoughtful about this time with their students. Below are some ideas for you as you prayerfully consider ways to parent through the summer months:

- Consider having the students read or be outside for an hour or more before they go on their technology devices, play video games, and look at social media. Students can monitor and provide collaborative expectations for these days off, so set these goals with input from your children, and check in with them weekly on their progress.
- Ask students to upload their spring SAT scores to Kahn Academy and set up an individualized daily practice schedule. Practicing can range from answering a few questions each morning to devising a more comprehensive plan. Wheaton Academy decided to give students the SAT and PSAT this year, in part, so they would have access to this personalized, rigorous test preparation offered free through Kahn Academy. For many students, this SAT score will be a key factor in their college admission and financial aid decisions.
- Enroll students in summer school at Wheaton Academy. Summer Academy allows students to free up space in their 2019-20 class schedule. [Registration can be found by clicking here.](#)
- Discuss with students the benefits of working either a paid job or an unpaid internship in a position that can provide real-life experience. Jobs or internships, sources for valuable references in the future, can be in retail, medical, business, or a variety of other fields.
- Enroll your child in a summer overnight camp program. The Chicagoland area provides many options at various price points with unique offerings for students. Many of these camps are run

on Christian principles and offer your children opportunities to grow in their faith while away from home for a week or more.

- Plan to have one-on-one time with each of your children. Go for bike rides, take them to breakfast, or find something else they would enjoy. Knowing your student's unique gifts and dreams and understanding their goals, worries, and hopes for the future are extremely important parts of parenting well.

We will pray for you all through these summer months and look forward to our on-going partnership with your family!

Student Life

*All-School Special
Offering for Kids Alive:*

Tuesday, April 16

Kids Alive: Wheaton Academy is honored to be in a committed partnership with Kids Alive International. Each month, our students provide \$1000 for this partnership to fund sponsorships that include care, support, and biblical training for 25 kids in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. To extend the relationship even beyond sponsorships, we visit these two locations through our Winterim mission trips. This month will include two main opportunities for students to give above and beyond to this ministry. Mr. WA, hosted on April 13, and our all-school offering on April 16 will provide resources to continue this unique partnership. It is our hope and prayer that these two events will raise funds for further support of the work that Kids Alive is doing in these two locations. We are grateful for the opportunity to be involved where God is already at work.

Senior Trip Reflection: Senior Trip 2019 was designed to celebrate and challenge the class of 2019. While the long weekend included plentiful fun and memorable moments at Disney, it also provided space to celebrate the amazing work that God has done over the last few years. Students described coming to know Jesus at WA, seeing the gospel at work in ways they had never expected, and walking through their challenges toward a deeper faith. Powerful words of encouragement were spoken as the seniors charged each other to have a vibrant faith that rests on the remarkable hand of God. Students were reminded of the source of their identity and its powerful ability to ignite their future. We are so thankful for this special senior class—for the ways God has grown them and used them during their time at our school. Please be praying for them as they move toward graduation and life beyond Wheaton Academy.

Senior Skip Day: Each year Wheaton Academy partners with the senior class to work on finishing their time at Wheaton Academy well. We desire the senior class to leave a legacy worthy of following as they reach the finish line of their high school careers. Over the years, Wheaton Academy has developed several meaningful traditions for the seniors: the senior trip, the final senior chapel, and even the final day of class all have become memorable experiences that provide an opportunity for reflection and fun. Working with our seniors to celebrate in ways that honor Wheaton Academy, the school selects a day where the seniors are not expected to be in class. This year, Senior Skip Day will be on Friday, April 26. The seniors will miss a half day of school, and the Junior/Senior dance is that night. We want you to be aware of this upcoming date and to reinforce the idea that the skip day is for seniors only.

Upcoming Dates

April 13	Mr. WA
April 24	ISBE visit
April 26	Teacher Appreciation Lunch and Junior/Senior Event
Week of April 29-May 4	Instrumental Concerts - Percussion Ensemble, Band/Orchestra
April 30	Grandparents Day
May 1	Academy Awards & Spring Art Show
May 6-17	AP Exams
May 10	Evening in the Furnace
May 11	Choral Concert
May 16 - 17	MTP Show
May 23 - 25	Advanced Drama Show
May 31	Baccalaureate
June 2	Graduation