
September 2025

NEWSCHESTER

Melissa Geraine, Principal

Avis Goodman, Assistant Principal

William Hartner, Assistant Principal



Main Office

(754) 322-8900

Attendance Line

(754) 322-8902

Aftercare Line

(754) 322-8927

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Wildcats,

We had a wonderful and successful start to the school year! The first three weeks were filled with excitement, learning, and a strong sense of community. It has been such a joy to see our students settling into routines, building connections with their teachers and classmates, and already showing great progress.

As we move forward, I am looking forward to all the opportunities this year will bring. From academic growth to character development, enrichment activities, and celebrations. This promises to be a year filled with meaningful experiences. Together, we will continue to nurture a safe, supportive, and inspiring environment where every child can thrive.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. It is through our collaboration that we make Westchester such a special place for our students.

Warmest regards,

Your Proud Principal, Mrs. Geraine



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Westchester Elementary PTA

Phone: 754-322-8900

Website: www.browardschools.com/westchester



Sept 9: Interim Reports

Sept 9: Save Promise Meeting

Sept 15-19: Start with Hello Week

Sept 15: Room Parent Meeting @ 8:30

Sept 22-26: Peace Week (activities listed on last page)

Sep 23: No School



Safety and security are our top priorities. Please make sure to remember the following safety procedures:

- ❖ All visitors **MUST** report to the front office and must have I.D. to gain access to our school.
- ❖ All visitors must go through our Raptor Visitor System.
- ❖ Students will wear their I.D.s while on campus.
- ❖ Parents must update their contact information with the front office.
- ❖ Visitors must stop at the front gate and speak with our Campus Monitor to gain entrance to campus.
- ❖ Identification is needed to gain access to front office.

School Registration

We are continuously taking registrations for this school year. During the school year, our office is open for registrations Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Items needed for registration: Two proofs of residence, original birth certificate, and health/immunization record. If you have an incoming kindergarten student, they must be five years old on/or before September 1, 2025.

If you have any questions, please call our office at 754-322-8900



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- ❖ The first bell rings at 7:55 a.m. each morning.
- ❖ On campus supervision begins at 7:30 a.m.
- ❖ Breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m. All students are invited to eat breakfast at no charge.
- ❖ It is vital that students arrive to school on time.
- ❖ K - 2 car rider students are dropped off and picked up in the front of the school, at the main entrance on Royal Palm.
- ❖ K-2 Walkers enter and exit through Gate 2 at the front of the school (corner of Royal Palm and 123 Ave)
- ❖ 3 - 5 car rider students are dropped off and picked up at the rear of the school on 123rd Avenue. If you have more than one child, use the drop off and pick up area of the youngest child.
- ❖ 3 - 5 Walkers enter and exit at rear of campus, Gate 6, on 123rd Avenue.
- ❖ Please do not park or leave cars unattended in the car loop area.
- ❖ If you are tardy, you must come into the office to sign your child into school.
- ❖ Dismissal is 2:00 p.m.
- ❖ Early Release Day dismissal is 12:00 p.m.

For the safety of our students, we ask that parents in the car lane abide by some simple safety rules:

- ❖ No cell phone usage when in the car line.
- ❖ Parents, please remain in your car.
- ❖ Please make sure your child is prepared to exit the vehicle when you pull into the car line.
- ❖ Children are to exit from the right side of the vehicle (sidewalk)
- ❖ Please stay in one lane, the outside lane is for those cars that are parking or exiting.
- ❖ Pull all the way up. The safety of your child/children is our top priority.



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IDENTIFICATION, PLEASE!



At Westchester, the safety and security of our students, staff, and families remain our top priority. In order to maintain a secure environment, we require all visitors to present a valid photo ID when entering our campus.

This process allows us to:

- Ensure that only authorized individuals are permitted inside the building.
- Accurately track who is on campus at all times.
- Provide a safe and secure learning environment for every student.

Please remember to bring your identification each time you visit—whether you are signing in for a meeting, volunteering, or picking up your child. Without proper ID, visitors will not be allowed to enter the building.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support in keeping our school safe.

BONES TO BOOK!



Reminder: Come Read with Zoey!

Hey Westchester students! Don't miss your chance to hang out with Zoey at the Coral Springs Broward County Northwest Regional Library Saturday, September 20 from 1:00-2:00 PM.

Come enjoy a cozy afternoon of reading alongside our favorite furry friend. It's a fun way to build reading confidence and share some love with Zoey!

Let's turn the page together—see you there! 📖❤️



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Cafeteria News



Beginning September 23, 2025, lunch meals will be served according to your child's eligibility status. To help ensure your child has a smooth and positive experience in the cafeteria, here are a few helpful reminders:

- **Set up an online account:** Our Cafeteria Manager highly recommends creating an account at www.myschoolbucks.com. This allows you to:
 - Monitor your child's meal selections.
 - Track A la Carte purchases and spending.
 - View balances and meal history
 - Easily add funds online
- **A la Carte purchases:** In addition to regular meals, students may purchase extra items. These are not included with meal eligibility and must be paid separately. Prices vary by item.
- **Ice Cream Day:** A favorite among students! Ice cream is available every **Wednesday for \$1.00**.
- **Free & Reduced Meals:** If you have not yet applied, we strongly encourage you to complete an application for Free and Reduced Price Meals. Apply at www.myschoolapps.com

Thank you for your continued support in helping us provide a safe, smooth, and enjoyable meal experience for all students.



School year 2025-2026, students will no longer eat lunch for no cost. Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) families will need to apply to determine their eligibility for free and reduced-price lunches. Food and Nutrition is currently accepting online Meal Benefits applications. Please

apply online at myschoolapps.com

Students will continue to have free breakfast this school year. **The last day that all students will receive free lunch is September 22, 2025.** It is very important that you go online and apply for free/reduced lunch. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the school or contact our Food and Nutrition Dept. @ 754-321-0250.



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PTA has a lot going on this month!

Want to stay informed? Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

September 2: Book Buddies School fundraiser begins.

2025-2026 Yearbooks are on sale now! You can purchase a yearbook & PTA membership for \$35 (package pricing ends on Sept 30th)

September 5: Pop-Up shop will be open 7:30 a.m. - 7:55 a.m.

- Our Pop-up shop will be open every first Friday and last Wednesday of every month, with a few date exceptions.

September 11: Family "Give Back" night at Pasquale's Pizza & Cold Stone Creamery. Located on Royal Palm Blvd. Mention Westchester Elementary when you visit both places and we will get 15% back to our school!

September 12: Grandparents Day Celebration

- Calling all Grandparents! Come and let us shower our Wildcat grandparents with coffee and nosh! 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. RSVP to (754)322-8900

September 15: Room Parent Meeting (in person) 8:30 a.m.

- All Elected Head Room Parents will receive an email from Rachel Poor, our PTA Room Parent Liaison.
- All Head Room parents must be a PTA member. If you have not signed up yet, sign up at Westchester.givebacks.com/shop

September 29th- October 8: Fall Book Fair "Falling in Love with Books"

Stay tuned for volunteer opportunities and Book Fair information! Family Shopping night will be on October 8th.



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follow us

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ptawestchester

Email: westchesterpta.main@gmail.com

Website: www.westchesterpta.com

PEACE WEEK: September 22 – September 26

Join us for a week of joy, unity, and kindness as we celebrate Peace & Love throughout our school!

Monday, Sept 22 – Peace & Love Day

- Wear tie-dye, kindness-themed shirts, or peace signs.
- Spread love and positivity across campus!

Tuesday, Sept 23 – No School

Wednesday, Sept 24 – Spirit Day

- Show your pride by wearing your Westchester shirt.
- Our school is No Place for Hate!

Thursday, Sept 25 – Twin Day

- Team up with a friend and dress alike
- Promote healthy friendships and peace school wide.

Friday, Sept 26 – Peace Across Broward

- Wear white to represent peace, unity, hope, and love.
- Let's show our community what togetherness looks like!

Let's make Westchester a place where peace and kindness bloom every day!



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BROWARD
COUNTY SCHOOLS

See Something, Say Something

Be a Broward Buddy. Report a Tip!

In an emergency, call 911 immediately. To submit a safety or security concern that is not an emergency, please use one of the tip reporting methods provided below. Please remember your role: it's not for serious emergencies.

Anonymous Tip Submission Box
Submit a tip using the anonymous tip submission box located throughout the school campus. These boxes are located in areas of high traffic, such as the main entrance, cafeteria, gymnasium, etc.
browardschools.com/SecurityTip

Call Us Anytime (Even on Holidays)
Call our Center Security Operations Center (CSOC) at 754-322-8900. CSOC is a 24-hour, 7-day-a-week, toll-free hotline. CSOC Specialists will take your tip over the phone and contact the appropriate law enforcement agency. Please be the first to report a security concern to CSOC.
754-322-8900

Send Us an Email
Submit a tip using the email address below. Although your email address is visible using this reporting method, you can choose to remain anonymous by email requests if you prefer.
SecurityTips@browardschools.com

FortifyFL
Submit a tip using the FortifyFL app. Download the app for free on your smartphone using the QR code, scan the code and immediately report your concern to CSOC.
GetFortifyFL.com

For more information on how to report a security concern, please visit browardschools.com/SecurityTip. This information is for informational purposes only and is not intended to be used as a substitute for professional advice. The information is not intended to be used as a substitute for professional advice. The information is not intended to be used as a substitute for professional advice.



FORTIFYFL
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING APP

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.

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