THE BLUE DEVIL DISPATCH

SEPTEMBER 2025

Welcome back to the 2025–2026 school year, Blue Devils! We're excited to see our students return and to continue building a strong partnership with our families. This year, we're introducing our new and improved **The Blue Devil Dispatch** parent newsletter. It's easier to navigate, packed with updates, and designed to keep you informed about all the wonderful and exciting things happening on campus. We can't wait to share the year ahead with you!

The Campus of Wickliffe Start / End Times

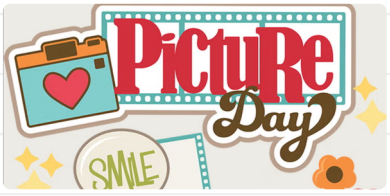
- **Grades K-2** 7:30-1:50
- **Grades 3-6** 8:00-2:20
- **Grades 7-12** 8:30-3:10

WCS School Supply Lists

Lower School Supply List

Grades 7 and 8 School Supply List

Picture Day!



Preschool and Kindergarten pictures: September 23 (7:30 - 2:00) will take place in their classrooms.

1st thru 6th pictures: September 24 (7:30 - 1:30) in the auditorium.

7th thru 12th: September 25 (8 - 3) in the auditorium. Students will go down in their ELA periods.

Lower School Info

Calling All Scouts!

Attention all K-5 Families! All girls and boys in grades K-5 are invited to two upcoming informational events about the Cub Scouting program! These events will be held as outlined in the

attached flyers on both Wednesday 9/10/25 and 9/17/25. The Cub Scouts organization is a great opportunity for students to learn and grow in their community!

Please check out the informational flyers attached! And if you have any questions, please contact the Cub Scouts directly. Thank you!

FALL RECRUITMENT/OPEN HOUSE NIGHTS!

1st RECRUITMENT NIGHT - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th
FROM 6:00PM-8:00PM
WILL BE AT JINDRA PARK in WICKLIFFE.
(901 TALMADGE AVE, WICKLIFFE, OH 44092)

2nd RECUITMENT NIGHT - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH
FROM 6:00PM-8:00PM
AT MANRY PARK PAVILION in WILLOWICK.
(30100 ARNOLD RD, WILLOWICK, OH 44095)

Come Learn and have Fun with Us! Title I Reading and Math Night Grades K-6

Title I Reading and Math Family Night!

Please join your Title I teachers to learn more about our Title Reading and Math programs on October 21st from 5:30-7:30 in the Commons.
More details to come!!

Upper School Info

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on **Monday, September 29, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

Grades 11 & 12- A Word from Dr. Balduff

Parents and Guardians of 11th and 12th Grade Students,

Our process for late arrival, early release, and open lunch has changed this year. Before a permission form can be issued, **both the student and a parent/guardian must have a conversation with me.**

Please note that these privileges may be revoked, and students reassigned to a study hall, if they are repeatedly late to class, skip class, or are failing any courses.

Larry Balduff
Principal 8, 11, 12

8th Grade- A Word from Dr. Balduff

8th Grade Parents and Guardians,
I am excited to share that, thanks to a generous donation from family friends, we have 4 Cedar Point tickets and 12 Cleveland Guardians tickets to raffle off for our students!

Raffle Criteria for Cedar Point & Guardians Tickets (Drawing: September 19, 2025):

- Zero in-school or out-of-school suspensions
- No more than two detentions
- Fewer than three missing assignments across all four core classes

Special Drawing!!

Special Drawing for Front Row Guardians Tickets (Drawing: September 5, 2025):

- No school referrals of any kind
- No missing assignments
- Never late to class

Please know that your child has already been informed of the criteria for both prizes. We are excited to reward students who consistently demonstrate responsibility and positive choices.

Good luck to all our 8th graders!
Larry Balduff
Principal 8, 11, 12

Mr. Gallo- Grades 9 and 10

Wickliffe Blue Devil Attendance Survivor Series: September & October
At Wickliffe Upper School, we know that strong attendance leads to stronger learning, growth, and success. This fall, we're excited to launch the Blue Devil Attendance Survivor Series to encourage and celebrate great attendance in our 9th and 10th grade homerooms.
Here's how it works:

- September Competition: Each of the six 9th and 10th grade 1st period homerooms will be tracked for attendance. At the end of the month, the top three homerooms with the highest attendance percentages will advance to the next round.
- October Showdown: Beginning in October, the three remaining homerooms will compete in a weekly elimination round. At the end of each week, the class with the lowest attendance percentage will be eliminated.
- Final Champion & Reward: The winning homeroom will be announced on Monday, October 27th as the Attendance Survivor Champion—and will earn a special class reward to celebrate their accomplishment!

This friendly competition puts the spotlight on the importance of being present and engaged every day. Regular attendance not only helps students keep up with class content but also builds habits of responsibility and persistence that last well beyond high school.
We're proud of our Blue Devils for rising to the challenge—now let's see which homeroom will outlast, outlearn, and out-attend to claim the title *and the prize!*

What is Happening at the FRC?

Smile Programs...the Mobile Dentists will be visiting the Campus of Wickliffe on September 10th, 11th, and 12th! All Wickliffe students grades PK-12 are eligible to receive dental services.

Paper registration forms will be sent home with Lower School students the first week of school, but you can also register online using the link below.

Smile Programs will be offering comprehensive dental care during this visit. This means preventative care, such as cleanings, in addition to restorative care like fillings. Smile Programs

keeps permission forms on file for 18 months—long enough to cover 3 visits. After that, a new form must be filled out.

Parents and guardians are always encouraged to fill out a new registration form (even if their student was just seen in the Spring) in case there have been any address or dental insurance changes!

Register Here

Access the Family Resource Center newsletter here! Stay in the know about things like Primary Care and Dental services through Signature Health, Community Laundry events, county services such as HEAP/PIPP, and so much more!

Click here for the FRC Newsletter!

Open House-October 2nd from 3-6pm

Come to the Fall Open House of the Family Resource Center on Thursday, October 2nd from 3-6pm!

- Learn about the wonderful things going on at the FRC!
- Shop the WicKloset!
- Drop off donations of food, clothing, or toiletry items!
- Meet the new Superintendent - Mr. Chokshi!
- Enjoy refreshments with the FRC staff and volunteers!

Coming soon....

🏥Vaccine Clinics at the Family Resource Center

If your student(s) are out of compliance with the Ohio School Vaccine requirements for the 25/26 school year - Signature Health will be offering two vaccine clinics this Fall!

All students will need to be pre-registered with Signature Health and have a scheduled appointment - walk-in appointments will not be available.

Clinic dates:

- Wednesday 9/17 from 9am- 5 pm
- Thursday 10/2 from 11am - 6pm

Register Here for Vaccine Clinics at the FRC

Student Opportunities

Want something for your child to do outside of school? Take a look at these opportunities!

Young Entrepreneur Institute

YEI's Ohio Pitch Challenge is an exciting pitch contest for Ohio students in grades K-12.
It offers a hands-on experience where students can develop key skills like creativity, problem-solving, critical thinking, and presentation abilities. Through this challenge, students gain essential workforce readiness skills and build a mindset for future careers—whether or not they pursue entrepreneurship.

Students compete in one of three groups by grade level: K-4, 5-8, or 9-12.

For more about YEI, click here.

AI Bootcamp

Mark Cuban Foundation AI Bootcamp is a free, twenty-hour introduction to Artificial Intelligence for high school students. Activities include:

- AI and emerging technology instruction
- Creation of a capstone project
- Mentorship from professionals in your community
- Applied ethics to various scenarios
- Exploring entrepreneurship/career options

Materials are designed for hands-on learning with technologies you'll actually use. A technical track is offered but no previous computer science is necessary for success. Students who

complete the program continue to receive mentorship and AI learning opportunities until graduation.

To find out more about AI Bootcamp for high schoolers, click here.

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Tiara Durrah

Tiara is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters