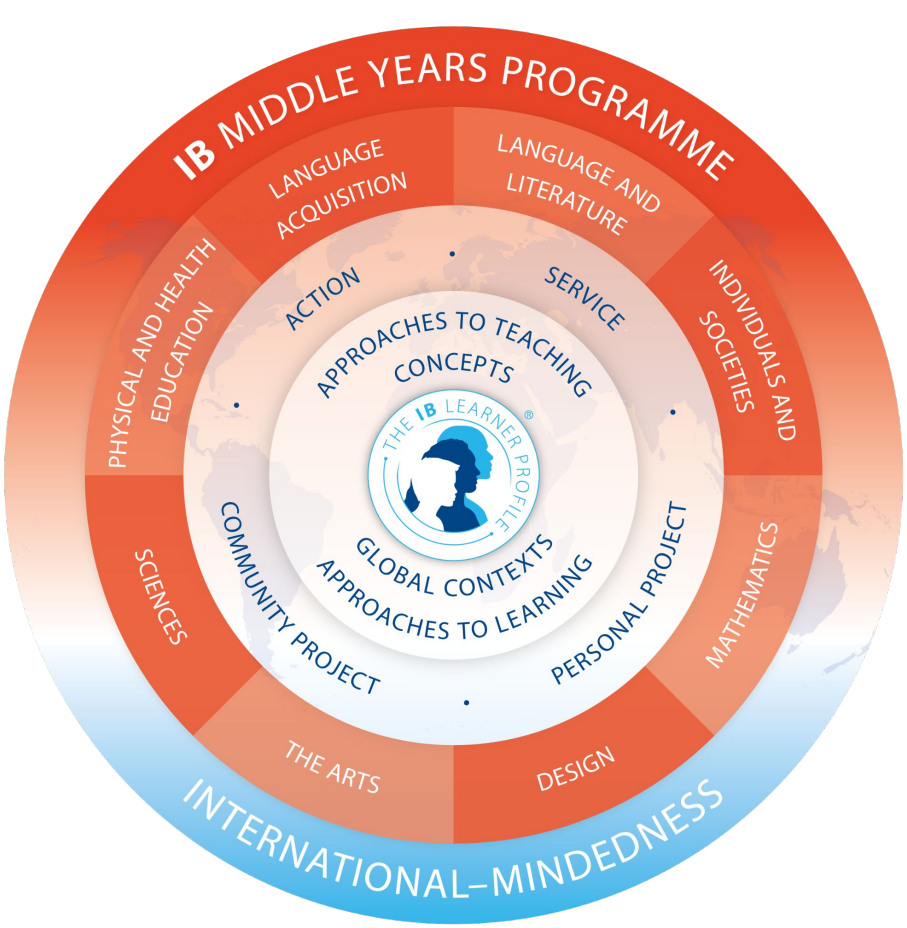
DP Course Information for Class of 2027

Mr. Llewellyn (DP Coordinator)

WESTLAKE ACADEMY

COLEGIO DEL MUNDO • WORLD SCHOOL • ECOLE DU MONDE

MYP to DP


IB MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME
LANGUAGE ACQUISITION
LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETIES
MATHEMATICS
DESIGN
THE ARTS
SCIENCES
PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION
ACTION
SERVICE
PERSONAL PROJECT
COMMUNITY PROJECT
APPROACHES TO TEACHING
CONCEPTS
GLOBAL CONTEXTS
APPROACHES TO LEARNING
THE IB LEARNER PROFILE
INTERNATIONAL–MINDEDNESS


IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME
STUDIES IN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
LANGUAGE ACQUISITION
INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETIES
MATHEMATICS
THE ARTS
SCIENCES
THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE
EXTENDED ESSAY
CREATIVITY, ACTIVITY, SERVICE
APPROACHES TO TEACHING
APPROACHES TO LEARNING
THE IB LEARNER PROFILE
INTERNATIONAL–MINDEDNESS

The IB Diploma

- All IB Diploma Programme (DP) courses are **two years long.**
- Diploma candidates participate in **six IB courses** and the **DP core**
- The award of the **IB diploma** is based on performance in specific DP coursework (**internal assessments** done mostly in Senior year) and **external assessments** taken in May 2027
- Each course is graded by the IB on a 1-7 scale
  - **24 points** from the 6 subjects are needed to gain the IB diploma
  - At least **12 points** must be from HL courses
  - In the DP core, students must also pass Extended Essay (EE), Theory of Knowledge (TOK) and complete requirements for Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS). Up to **3 points** can be earned based on performance on EE and TOK
  - There is a total of **45 points** available on the IB diploma.

The DP at Westlake Academy

- The award of the **WA high school diploma** is separate from the award of the IB Diploma.
  - - High school diploma is awarded based on the grades for work done in class marked by the teacher of record
  - - Formative and summative assessments are based on the DP subject curriculum and rubrics. DP students take two summatives for each subject, each quarter.
  - - Grades awarded in class are on a scale from 0-100, with an overall minimum score of 70 required to pass a class and earn credit

Course Levels

- Every DP course is taught at either **Standard Level (SL)** or **Higher Level (HL)**
- IB requires every DP student takes either **three** or **four** HL exams. This means each student will also take either **three** or **two** SL exam. All DP students must therefore sign up for at least 3 HL courses.
- HL courses include all of the content as the corresponding SL course, but have a substantial amount of additional HL content. In general, AHL content has higher complexity and rigor than SL content.
- As such, you should generally expect to spend more time outside of school on your HL coursework than on your SL coursework.
- Both SL and HL courses are college-aligned courses.

Courses for Class of 2027

GROUP 1 Studies in Language and Literature	GROUP 2 Language Acquisition	GROUP 3 Individuals and Societies	GROUP 4 Sciences	GROUP 5 Mathematics	GROUP 6 The Arts & Electives	CORE Theory of Knowledge
English A Literature HL	French B SL/HL	History HL	Biology SL/HL	Math Applications and Interpretation SL	Visual Art HL	TOK (2 semesters)
	Spanish B SL/HL Spanish B AB	Economics HL	Chemistry SL	Math Analysis and Approaches SL	Film HL	
		Business Management HL	Physics SL/HL	Math Analysis and Approaches HL	A second course from groups 2, 3, or 4.	
			Environmental Sys&Soc HL/SL			
			Computer Science SL*			

*Computer science is only offered as an elective (it must be your second science).

Selecting your courses: overview

- You must select **six** two-year courses. You must have one course from each of groups 1-5.
- For your sixth course, you must choose an elective, which is either Visual Art, Film, or a second course from groups 2, 3 or 4.
- At least 3 of your courses must be HL.
- You will be receiving further guidance regarding your selections for language acquisition and mathematics.

Required courses

- All G11/G12 students will take the following classes:
  - IB English Literature HL 1
  - IB History of the Americas HL 1
    - In May 2026 all Juniors take the US History EOC exam.
  - At least one semester of Economics if student did not take it in 10th grade.
  - IB Theory of knowledge (two semester course)
    - State requirement of professional communication is embedded.

Course selection

- All G11 students will take a Language Acquisition Class
  - IB Spanish SL 1
  - IB Spanish HL 1(by permission only)
  - IB Spanish Ab Initio 1 (by permission only, or as an elective for students taking French)
  - IB French SL 1
  - IB French HL 1 (by permission only)

In accordance with WA language policy, the language acquisition course must be the same language students have undertaken in grades 9 and 10.

In accordance with the IB language policy, Language ab initio is closed to any student with 3 years of experience in that language.

Course selection

- All G11 students take a Science
  - IB Biology SL 1
  - IB Biology HL 1
  - IB Chemistry SL 1
  - IB Physics SL 1
  - IB Physics HL 1
  - IB Environmental Systems and Societies SL 1
  - IB Environmental Systems and Societies HL 1

It is strongly recommended that students who choose Chemistry have taken MYP chemistry. It is required that students who choose Physics have take taken MYP Physics.

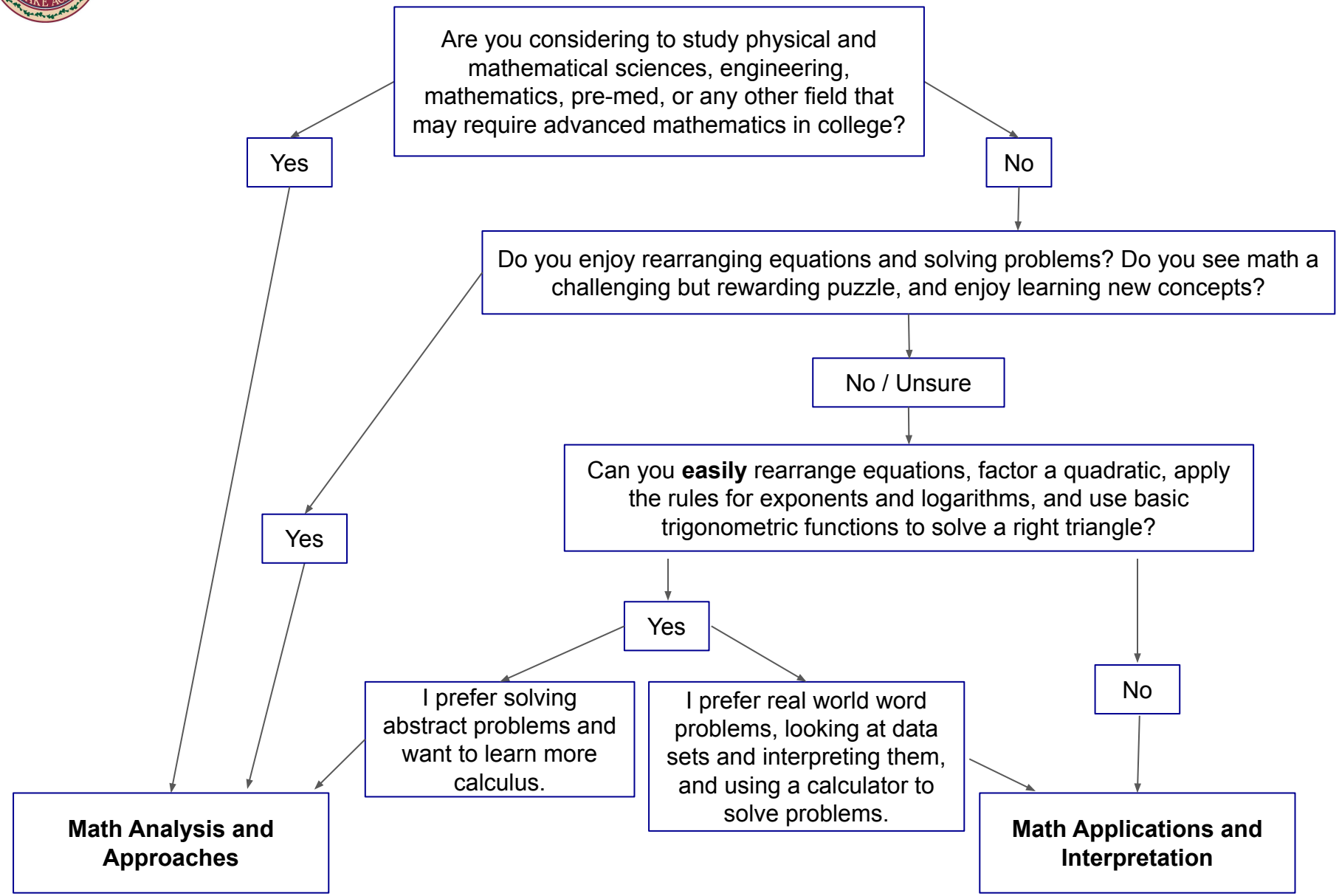
Course selection

- All G11 students will take a Mathematics course
  - IB Mathematics Applications and Interpretation SL 1
  - IB Mathematics Analysis and Approaches SL 1
  - IB Mathematics Analysis and Approaches HL 1*
    - *Students must have credit for AP precalculus to enroll in Math AA HL

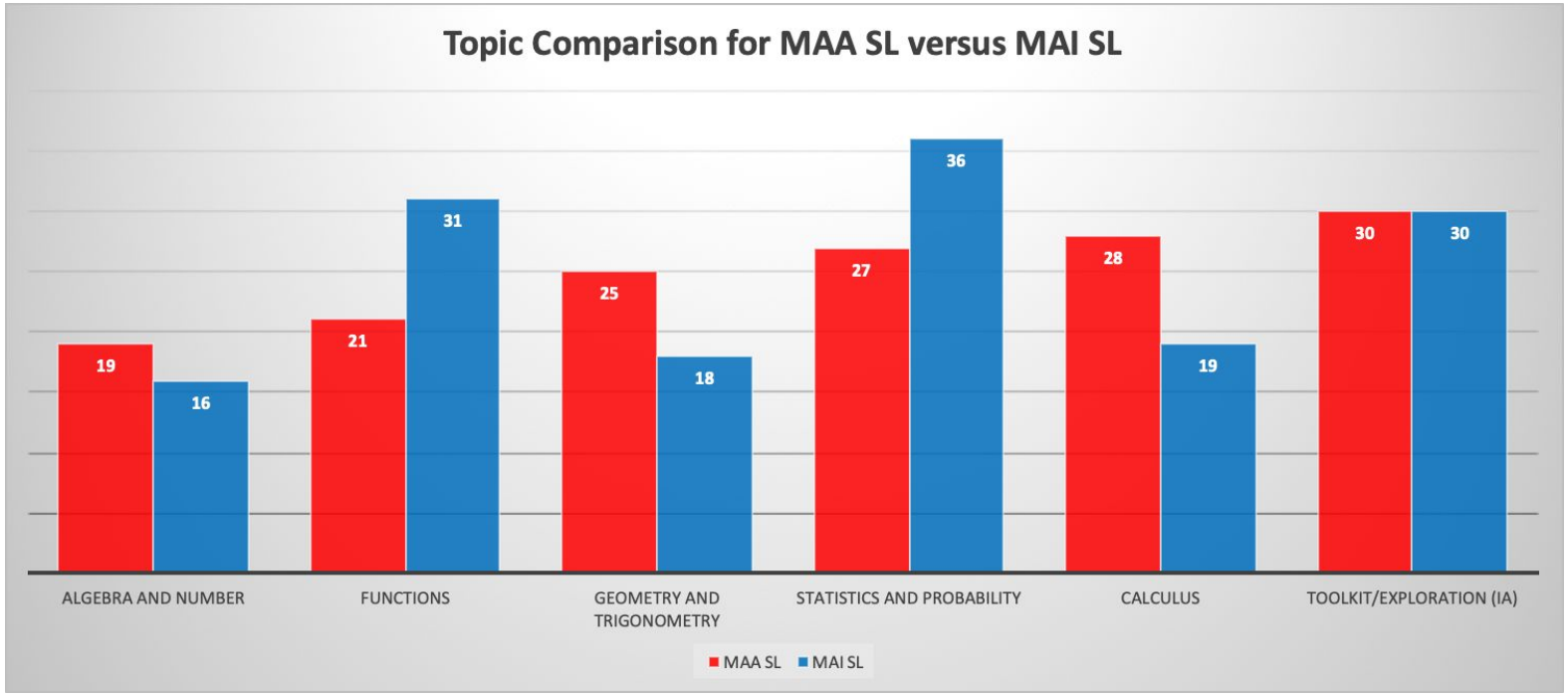
- Math AI focuses on application and uses technology to enhance understanding. IB Math AI emphasizes topics like modelling, statistics, data analysis, and computational mathematics. Students have access to a calculator for 100% of this course.

- Math AA focuses on the theoretical approach to mathematics. This course *analyzes* abstract math theories at its foundation. IB Math AA covers topics like advanced algebraic processing, trigonometry, and calculus to train students for further mathematics. Students that may want to study a STEM field are highly advised to take this course. Students have access to a calculator for 50% of this course.

How To Choose The Right DP Math Course For You



Number of Hours Spent on Each Topic



*Toolkit is time spent working on the math internal assessment that is 20% of your overall IB score.

Course selection

- Students must take an art course or an elective.
- Art courses
  - Visual Arts HL
  - Film HL
- Electives
  - Spanish ab initio

    For students that take French as their primary language
  - Computer Science SL

    Students may only take this course as an elective. This is because Texas does not consider computer science a science.
  - Economics HL or Business HL
  - A second science
- A student may choose to take a study hall, or optionally take a second elective for a total of 7 courses. Study hall is usually recommended.

The DP "CORE"

- **In addition to six DP courses, all students do the following:**
- **Theory of Knowledge (TOK)**
  - two-semester course which connects all the IB subjects together. Students explore the question "how do we know what we know?"
  - TOK Essay and Exhibition
- **Extended Essay (EE)**
  - 4000-word research paper from either a DP subject or World Studies. Each student is allocated a supervisor. Research skills for the EE are embedded in the TOK class.
- **Creativity/Activity/Service (CAS)**
  - Creative Endeavors
  - Physical Activity
  - Service Learning

WA AP Opportunities (Grade 11)

Students taking the following DP courses will have opportunities to learn AP-aligned content and skills during their Junior year. Registration for the AP exam session takes place in October.

Chemistry SL (AP Chemistry)
Biology SL/HL (AP Biology)
Economics HL (AP Macroeconomics and AP Microeconomics)
History of the Americas HL (AP US History)
Spanish HL (AP Spanish Language and Culture)

Juniors may also register for:
English HL (AP English Language and Composition exam)
Physics SL/HL (AP Physics)

Earning Credit

- A student earns 1.0 credit when he/she successfully completes a year long course.
- Passing requires a minimum of 70 and being in attendance 90% of the time.
- A student earns a 0.5 credit by successfully completing a semester long class.
- Students must earn a particular number of credits to be promoted to the next grade
  - 6 credits – sophomore (10 th)
  - 13 credits – junior (11th)
  - 19 credits – senior (12th)

Grades

Course Type	Grade Level	Quality Points
MYP Courses	9 – 10	+5
AP Courses	9 – 12	+10
SL DP Courses	11 – 12	+10
HL DP Courses	11 – 12	+12

- Official – Semester Grades & Year End
- Grades earned in 9th – 12th grades are calculated in cumulative GPA
- 100 point scale; We do not recalculate to 4.0 scale
- Non-Weighted
  - PE, CTE Courses

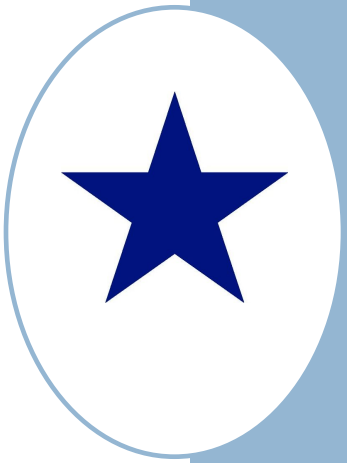
Distinguished Level of Achievement

- Distinguished Level of Achievement
  - WA students on track to earn
  - Higher performance category high school diploma
  - Additional Requirements
    - Foundation Program Requirements = 22 Credits
    - Select 1 endorsement
    - 4 Credits in math including Algebra 2
    - 4 Credits in science
    - Will earn 26 Credits



Performance Acknowledgements

Students may earn Performance Acknowledgements for outstanding performance in the following areas



- Advanced Placement exams (3+)
- International Baccalaureate exams
- PSAT, ACT, SAT scores
- State, nationally or internationally-recognized business or industry certification or license

Class Rank

- Westlake Academy is a non-ranking school
- Rank in Class – Rank in class is determined by Cumulative GPA and will be provided for the following:
  - *Obtaining automatic admission to Texas public universities based upon uniform admissions policy & in accordance with Texas Education Code*
  - *Reported directly to institutions by Westlake Academy staff*
  - *Determining Valedictorian and Salutatorian*
- Outside of the above circumstances, Westlake Academy will not provide class rank

Automatic Admission Notification

- In accordance with TEC, §28.026, and Texas Administrative Code (TAC), §61.1201, school districts are required to provide written notification of eligibility for automatic college admission under the Uniform Admission Policy (TEC §51.803) to students before the 14th day after the last day of the fall semester. Districts are required to notify:
  - Each eligible senior
  - Each junior with GPA in top 10%
  - Student's parent or guardian
- Westlake Academy students and parents will be notified in the Spring
- For more information – Texas Education Agency – www.tea.texas.gov

Standardized Testing

PSAT/NMSQT

9th/10th Grade
Practice SAT

11th Grade
National Merit Scholarship Program

ACT

4 Parts
English, Math, Reading, (Science)
Optional
Writing

Max Score
36

SAT

2 Parts
EBRW & Math

Max Score
1600

Important Dates

- September – Westlake Academy College Fair
- October – PSAT/NMSQT Exam; Apply for Financial Aid
- November – PSAT/NMSQT Scores Released
- January – College Counseling Kick Off Meeting for Junior
- Feb - May
  - SAT/ACT Standardized Testing
  - College Counseling Family Meetings
  - In Class College Counseling Sessions
  - EOC Exam
  - AP Exams

Senate Bill 111

"…an institution of higher education shall grant at least 24 semester credit hours or equivalent course credit in appropriate subject areas to an entering freshman student for successful completion of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program." *

*Source: SB 111, 79th Legislative Session, 2005.

Completing your selections

- You will make your course selections in PowerSchool. Access to the course selection page in PowerSchool will be live on February 27, and close on March 7.
- If you have any questions about your choices, please speak to either Mr. Llewellyn, Dr. Owen or Mr. Tippen.
- Mr. Llewellyn: bllewellyn@westlakeacademy.org
- Dr. Owen: jowen@westlakeacademy.org
- Mr. Tippen: ctippen@westlakeacademy.org