

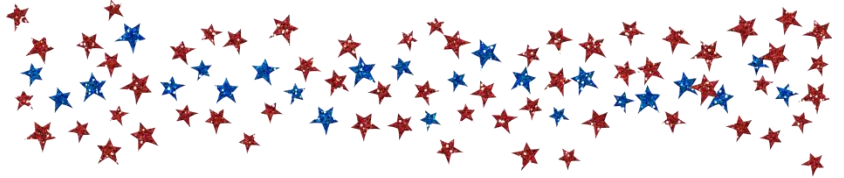
# WASATCH PEAK

A C A D E M Y

*home of the patriots*

# PATRIOT NEWS

October 3, 2018



## **OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS:**

**October 3-4**

-Parent/Teacher Conferences

-Book Fair

-Early Out

**October 5**

Comp Day

(No school)

**October 11**

PTO Board

Meeting @1:30 PM

**October 18-19**

Fall Break

(No School)

**October 22-26**

Red Ribbon Week

**October 22**

Literacy Night

**October 24**

-Term 1 ends

**October 25**

2<sup>nd</sup> Term starts

**October 26**

-Early out

-Dollar dress

down day

**October 31**

Halloween Class

Parties

calendar of events

## A NOTE FROM MRS. PILKINGTON:

Greetings WPA Families,

I wanted to take some time today and share some information about the importance of attendance in school. Any absences, even if they are excused, can add up to academic trouble and other complications for students. I am sure that you already know that these absences can result in lower test scores and grades. But were you aware that poor attendance can have other negative impacts on your student? Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Attendance habits start to form as early as preschool. Parents plan a key role in fostering a culture of school attendance at home. Start building this habit now so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important.

Good attendance is essential, students who are absent from school miss opportunities to learn and develop positive relationships within the school community. During the early elementary school years, children develop important skills and approaches to learning that are critical for ongoing school success. Through their experiences in K-3 classrooms, children build academic, social-emotional and study skills.

Research shows that elementary school attendance greatly impacts how well children do in high school, college, and at work. A 2012 research brief by the Utah Education Policy Center that looked at the percent of chronically absent students by school year, found that kindergarten and first grade students who were chronically absent were highly unlikely to read on grade level. Children who are chronically absent in kindergarten show lower levels of achievement in math, reading and general knowledge. Further, on average, being chronically absent in one grade increased the odds of being chronically absent in the next grade by nearly 13 times. Chronic absence is defined as missing 10% or more of the school year, 18 days for the year in total, or an average of 2 missed days per month and has a significant impact on your child's education. For each year that a student was chronically absent, his or her odds of dropping out nearly doubled. By the time a student is in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade chronic absences are the leading indicator whether that student will graduate from high school.

Continued on next page...

Ways that parents can help cultivate a culture of school attendance at home.

- Talk with your child about the importance and value of attending school.
- Be aware that being on time provides your child with important time to transition into school and prepare for the day
- Utilize tools like Aspire to track your child's attendance and make adjustments if they are missing too much school early in the year. Setting good habits at the beginning of the year has a strong impact on how the rest of the year will play out.
- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothing, backpacks, etc. the night before.
- Don't let your child stay home from school unless they are truly sick. Keep in mind that complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, the school counselor, or other support staff for advice on how to make him/her feel more comfortable at school.
- Help your child avoid anxiety from big or missing assignments by checking grades and communicating with teachers.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

Thanks for all that you do to support your student in making this year a great one!

Ms. Pilkington

# ANNOUNCEMENTS:



October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 is Apple Crunch Day in Utah, and this year, we're having a contest with some of our fellow Mountain West states to see who can get the most kids crunching! It's a Crunch Off for the Crunch Crown!

Does this sound a-peeling to you? Apple-solutely it does!!!

I need a team of parents who can help make this magic happen. You would come and pass out bagged apples first thing in the morning to all the classes along with some apple crunch stickers and take some pictures. As a school we will all eat our apples. Please send me an email [kbushy@wasatchpeak.org](mailto:kbushy@wasatchpeak.org) if you would like to help out and let's get crunching!



Just a reminder Wasatch Peak serves breakfast every morning @ 7:30 – 7:50 and then also a 2<sup>nd</sup> chance breakfast during the students first recess/break. If this is something you **do not** want them to participate you will need to talk with them. If they show up in line they get a meal and will be charged \$1.50.



- October 22-26 is Ribbon Week. Please see the sign up if you would like to make a donation, help create posters, assemble bracelets at home, decorate the school with ribbons, or help at recess activities. This is a great opportunity for at home hours.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090d4daba62aa1ff2-ribbon1>

- We only have two more spots available on the Literacy Night sign-up. The available slots are for help with childcare from 6:00 - 7:30 the night of October 22nd. Thanks for being willing to help! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d44a4ad2eabfb6-literacy>



# Sign up for important updates from WPA PTO!

Get information for **Wasatch Peak Academy** right on your phone—not on handouts.

Pick a way to receive messages for **WPA PTO**:

**A** **If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.**

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

[rmd.at/gg4k68](http://rmd.at/gg4k68)

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.



**B** **If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.**

Text the message **@gg4k68** to the number **81010**.

If you're having trouble with **81010**, try texting **@gg4k68** to **(704) 464-3442**.

*\* Standard text message rates apply.*



wasatch peak academy's

# LITERACY NIGHT CAMPOUT

COME FOR  
A NIGHT OF  
CAMPING  
FUN!

campfire stories  
crafts ★ word games  
fun activities  
literacy education  
& s'more!

PLUS A **FREE BOOK** FOR EVERY CHILD!

**DATE:**

*Monday,  
October 22, 2018*

**TIME:**

*6:00-7:30 PM*

\* optional childcare for toddlers will be provided