

Mrs. Vaught's Thoughts



August 2010

Welcome Back!!

I hope that each of your families had a refreshing summer, complete with lots of photos and good memories! My family returned, for the third year, to a house in Nag's Head for a week. We are glad to keep returning to this particular house each summer because it is well equipped for families with young children. Since my grandson is 3 and ½ and my granddaughter is 18 months old, we appreciate the special touches in the home that make it a good fit for our family. It is my hope, at WCA, that you will find that our elementary school has been prepared with "special touches" that will make it a wonderful place for your child to learn and thrive this year!

One of the blessings of the beach house is that it comes equipped with cribs to insure safe sleeping for little ones. It would be developmentally risky to put an eighteen month old in a twin bed and hope that he or she doesn't roll out. At WCA, we also have a strong dedication to introducing academic subjects to your child in a developmentally appropriate way. We begin with "small bites" of information and lots of "hands on" activities. As your child progresses through the upper elementary school, the "bites" get bigger and the "hands on" activities expand to include independent research and projects.

The same is true of your child's relationship with the Lord. In lower elementary grades, children are introduced to Praise and Worship times and Bible stories. They are encouraged to pray about everything and their teachers point out evidence of God's love and greatness in everyday activities. In fourth and fifth grades, in addition to the above, children begin to study God's Word using the deductive method, in which they discover Biblical meaning in a personal way.

Challenging children at the appropriate developmental level reminds me of the safety gates installed at the staircases in the beach house. This summer, we did not have to lock those gates for our oldest grandchild because he is proficient with stairs. But we were diligent to make sure they were closed when our youngest was in the room! A very important item of protection for little ones at the beach house was a piercing alarm attached to the doorway leading to the swimming pool. Its shrieking sound told the children that they were NEVER to go into the pool without an adult.

Here at WCA, we are blessed to be partners with you---the adults in each child's life! Your family should always know that the school is working together with you, under the Lord's guidance, in the life of your child. It is your task, as parents, to approach the serious training issues in life with your child, but we are here to support you. Each of the children will need encouragement and correction this year, and we appreciate your trust in us to provide that.

We commit to letting you know of times when your child is entering “deep waters”, such as showing lack of responsibility, using inappropriate language, and having lack of respect for others. At this time in their development, it is important that children know that adults will be beside them in all new ventures.

Just as the beach house was built with children in mind, our complete focus in building the “WCA Elementary House” is to serve your child and the One that created him or her. Our heart is to see that each child:

- Becomes more like Jesus daily
- Is equipped academically for their life and calling here on Earth
- Is encouraged and trained by teachers and staff who are specifically called here to WCA

Welcome Back!

September Dates to Remember

Sept. 6: Labor Day (no school)
Sept. 8: Mission Dress Down Day
Sept. 10: Back to School Carnival 3:00-7:00 here at school!
Sept. 14: Catch the Vision Tour @ 2:00
Sept. 24: Receive Interim Reports on Edline

A Few Reminders.....

- Check Edline frequently for your child’s grades and important information from your child’s teacher.
- When you need to contact your child’s teacher, email is usually the most efficient way.
- If you have questions or concerns about a facet of your child’s experience here at WCA, please address the classroom teacher first. If you would like me to join in on that conversation, just let me know! If you continue to have concerns after the discussion with the teacher, please contact me. My school phone number is 220-1978 (ext. 112) and my email is vaughthj@williamsburgchristian.org.

Blessings,
Mrs. Jane Vaught

