

LWA NEWSLETTER

VOL: 7



MISSION STATEMENT

LWA teaches and motivates students to seek, discover, embrace, and apply knowledge while exploring their personal, artistic, and academic talents in order to engage in life with a culturally respectful, civically responsible, and innovative entrepreneurial spirit for success in higher education and the careers of an increasingly global society.

MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear LWA Families,

I write to you from a school that feels much too quiet and empty without our students. It is hard to believe that classes ended over a month ago! We have been hard at work planning for next year. We will be adding several new AP courses for our Upper School students, exciting new elective options for Middle School, and a new Spanish Immersion Pilot Program for Lower School, but there will be time yet to discuss all we have planned for your children for the next academic year. For now, please enjoy this special summer edition of our newsletter, and the rest of your summer, because September will be here before we know it.

Best,
Hank Williams



At Home with
the World



PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN GRADUATIONS



On Wednesday, June 5th, our youngest LWA Tigers were celebrated with great pomp and circumstance as we commemorated their Stepping Up Ceremonies. The events were held in the beautiful library mezzanine where our 3K, PK, and Kindergarten students had the opportunity to show off their singing, dancing, instrumental talents and sign language. Thank you to Mr. Altieri, Mrs. Lauren Longo, and Ms. Lauren Ferro for the amazing performances and designs on display; and for helping our students build a love of music and the arts early on! Thank you to our amazing teachers for helping the students to learn and grow. Most importantly thank you to the LWA parents and families for choosing to share your children with us. It has been a pleasure to watch them develop their curiosities and grow as lifelong learners. We expect big things ahead from our little tigers. In the words of Dr. Seuss, "Oh! The Places You'll Go!"

LOWER SCHOOL GRADUATION



On Thursday, June 6th, we recognized our Lower School students from grades 1 through 4 with a beautiful graduation ceremony. There were songs, dances, instrumentals, and bucket drumming on display by all our Lower School students. Ms. Kamil Lowe, our 3rd/4th grade teacher gave an emotional speech for the Grade 4 Remarks, Neisha Kalyan, chosen as the class speaker, reflected on her time at LWA and her Lower School memories as she prepares to join the Middle School next year, Ms. Kimberly Breslauer, a member of the LWA Board of Trustees, gave an inspiring speech about what it means to be an LWA student, and Ms. Lindsay Breslauer provided words of wisdom to our graduating 4th grade as the faculty speaker. At the helm of it all was Mr. David O’Keeffe as emcee. LWA was also thrilled to bring back the time-honored tradition of the Lamp of Learning to this year’s ceremony and to present the Margie Boas Award to Eliyah Cenatus. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this year’s ceremony a grand success and we look forward to seeing everyone in September!

MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADUATION



On Thursday, June 6th, we also celebrated our eighth graders with a beautiful graduation ceremony emceed by the unmatched Mr. David O’Keeffe. There were musical performances, a poetic recitation, and moving speeches. Ella Schwartz, a member of the LWA Board, spoke about the deeper meaning of what it means to be cool, Isabel Manne, the guest speaker, reminisced fondly about her time as an LWA student, Mr. Davis, voted as the faculty speaker, had individual advice for every single graduate, and Ethan Alexandre, voted as the class speaker, offered some encouraging words of advice to his peers as they stand on the precipice of their high school years. Thank you to everyone who helped make this event such a success, and we wish our eighth graders much success and joy on this next step of their academic journeys!

UPPER SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT



On Friday, June 7th, we celebrated the commencement ceremony of the Class of 2024. Thank you to all of our speakers for sharing your wisdom. We would like to give a special shout out to this year's commencement speaker, Mr. Robert E. Wallace, Jr. a graduate of Woodmere Academy Class of 1974. It was an honor to have you come back home to LWA 50 years after your own graduation! Thank you to all faculty and staff for shaping this memorable event. Thank you to LWA families for entrusting us with your children all these years. Most of all, thank you, our beautiful seniors, for being *that* class. You will be deeply missed.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVELS WITH LWA

After a week of graduation ceremonies, students replaced caps and gowns with suitcases and sunscreen as LWA set off to Costa Rica on Thursday, June 13th. The trip marked the relaunch of the International Student Travel Program since COVID-19 forced LWA to pause the program back in 2020. Led by Mrs. Nadia Kalyan and Mr. Hank Williams, Head of School, a group of 11 LWA travelers jetted off to the Costa Rican rainforest for an amazing experience. Our group shared the tour with schools from Chicago and Virginia allowing our students to network and engage with domestic students throughout the 8-day journey. Our explorers were able to enjoy a fresh cup of coffee straight from the farm in Sarchí, swing through the trees on a ziplining adventure in Monteverde, experience the rare ecosystem of the Cloud Forest, hike in the Arenal Volcano National Park, practice our dance moves with a local teacher, pick our own pineapples in Sarapiquí, and taste the many stages of chocolate. The trip closed with a night of dinner, dancing, and folklore in San José. The EF Tours director Roy and bus driver Bene were extremely knowledgeable and shared their love of Costa Rican biodiversity, culture, and heritage with us throughout the trip. Thank you to all the students and families who participated in this year's adventure. Stay tuned for the unveiling of our next international destination coming in August!



LWA SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM



With school out of session, our 2nd Annual LWA Summer Enrichment Program kicked off on Monday June 10th. Students were able to return to school for days filled with activity! From reading books in the library, practicing math skills with Mr. Patrice Davis, making volcanoes with Ms. Kamil Lowe, and music lessons with Mr. Jason Cafaro and Mrs. Lauren Longo there was non-stop action throughout the two week program led by Mrs. Nadia Kalyan. Students were also able to practice their chess skills, build with models with legos and dominoes and enjoy the gym, field and playgrounds too! The program ended with an ice-cream celebration, water balloons, sprinklers, and tye-dye. Thank you to all the teachers and staff who made the program a resounding success and to the students and families who participated.

HELL☀️
Summer

SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS

English and Math summer assignments are required and provide students with opportunities to immerse themselves in reading, writing, and mathematics review prior to the start of the school year. Students will be graded / assessed for completion of their assignment. We recommend that you begin this work no later than the first week of August.

Which assignment should you do?

LOWER SCHOOL 3K/PK-Grade 4

Link to Reading & Math Activities/Skills

for each grade level: [Lower School Summer Assignments](#)

MIDDLE SCHOOL Grades 5-8

[English Summer Assignment Grades 5-8](#)

[Math Summer Assignment Entering Grade 5](#)

[Math Summer Assignment Entering Grade 6](#)

[Math Summer Assignment Entering Grade 7](#)

[Math Summer Assignment Entering Grade 8](#)

UPPER SCHOOL Grades 9-12

[English Summer Assignment Grades 9 and 10](#)

[English Summer Assignment Grades 11 and 12](#)

[Math Summer Assignment Grades 9-12](#)

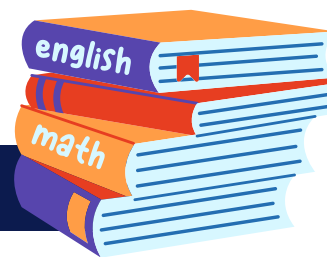
**In order to complete this assignment, with two weeks between each journal entry, begin no later than August 14.*

Your Math Journal can be completed either:

*Electronically: make a copy of the document. Rename it: Your Last Name, First Name, Math Journal
or*

Manually: download the journal assignment and journal pages after you copy the document.

As we continue to enhance programming and increase academic rigor, our principal will be meeting with incoming fifth and ninth graders as well as every new student on **September 3** to discuss the summer reading assignments as well as review schedules. Please be sure to complete your work by this date to ensure a productive and meaningful dialogue can take place. Specific information regarding these meetings will be sent toward the end of the summer.



ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

SCHOOL SUPPLIES- Please see the below links for reference to the school supplies needed to begin the 2024-25 academic year.

[Lower School Supply Lists Preschool - Grade 4 2024/2025](#)

[Middle School Supply Lists 2024/2025](#)

[Upper School Supply Lists 2024/2025](#)



DRESS CODE UPDATE- LWA has updated the Dress Code Policy for the 2024-25 academic year. Please reference the revised dress code for your student(s) using the links below.

[Lower School Dress Code](#)

[Middle School Dress Code](#)

[Upper School Dress Code](#)



IMMUNIZATION and PHYSICAL EXAM FORMS- Please be reminded that all students will require updated immunizations and physical exam forms. The full bulletin on these updates can be reference by using the [Medical Forms](#) link.



IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, August 26

9:00am International Student Orientation

Tuesday, August 27

9:00am International Student Orientation

Wednesday, August 28

8:00am Faculty Meetings/Classroom Setup

9:00am International Student Orientation

Thursday, August 29

8:00am Faculty Meetings/Classroom Setup

9:00am International Student Orientation

Friday, August 30

8:00am Faculty Meetings/Classroom Setup

9:00am International Student Orientation

Monday, September 2

12:00am LABOR DAY: School Closed

Thursday, September 5

Begin 2024-2025 - Q1

8:00am First Day of Classes ALL Grades

Friday, September 6

8:30am PRE-SCHOOL: Abbreviated Day

Saturday, September 7

10:00am Back-to-School Barbecue Families/Faculty/Staff

Did you know?

The Upcoming Events section of our website has a button to add the school calendar to your personal Google Calendar. Look for the Google Calendar button at the bottom of the section.



For families that prefer the At- A- Glance format, please reference:

LAWRENCE WOODMERE ACADEMY
SCHOOL YEAR 2024-25