



WALNUT ACRES
Jaguars

ENEWS

Walnut Acres Elementary
Nationally Recognized
Blue Ribbon School 2005

180 Cerezo Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94598
(925) 939 1333

September 8, 2015

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Report an Absence

[Click here to report an absence](#)

Dates to Remember

Back to School Nights:

Tues, Sept 8: TK/K 5:45-7pm

Wed, Sept 9: 1st Grade 5:45-7pm

Thur, Sept 10: 3rd Grade 6-7pm

Friday, Sept 11: Ice Cream Social

Sunday, Sept 13: WalnutRun for Education

Sept 17 - Oct 2: Gift Wrap Fundraiser

Tues, Sept 22: PFC Meeting 7pm in the Library

Sat Oct 10: Community Service Day

Visit the Walnut Acres online [calendar](#) for future dates.

Enews Release Dates

Next Enews Release

Tuesday, September 8

Articles Due

Wednesday, September 2

Visit the [PFC website](#) for Enews guidelines and schedule.

[Sign up for Enews](#)

[Sign up for Foothill Enews](#)

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Konstella - Online Parent Directory



This year, instead of creating and printing a school directory, we are introducing **Konstella**, a new **Online Parent Directory** available to all Walnut Acres families. It is a private and secure service that includes a directory, events, signups and photo sharing, and even free mobile apps.

Join by [clicking here](#) today! The signup process is pretty easy to follow, but if you would like some step by step instructions, please see the [HowTo document](#). And, don't forget to get the free Konstella phone app! It brings your classroom and school signups, announcements, and directory all to one at-a-glance spot.

Back to School Nights

Tue, Sept 8: TK/Kinder 5:45-7 pm

Wed, Sept 9: 1st Grade 5:45-7 pm

Thu, Sept 10: 3rd Grade 6-7pm



Ice Cream Social



Annual Walnut Acres Ice Cream Social
Friday, September 11 from 6 - 8 pm.

All Walnut Acres families are invited to join fellow Jaguars and families for a fun evening of ice cream and friends. The ice cream is free!

And, this is the last opportunity to purchase 2015-16 Walnut Acres t-shirts and hoodies.

Spirit Wear

Show your school spirit with Walnut Acres Spirit Wear!

The PFC will be selling the 2015-16 short-sleeve tees and pullover hoodies at the Ice Cream Social on Friday, September 11. **This is the last chance to purchase**



Submit articles to enews@walnutacrespfc.net

Quick Links

[Walnut Acres Website](#)

[District Website](#)

[Walnut Acres PFC Website](#)

[Walnut Acres School Calendar](#)

[Enews submission deadlines](#)

[Community News: sign-ups, teams & local events](#)

[Lunch menu](#)

[Special Thanks To](#)

Ongoing Fundraisers



Walnut Acres
**JAGUAR
FUND**

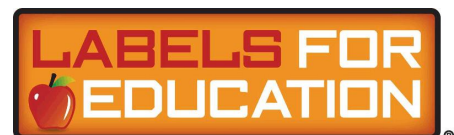
[Jaguar Fund](#)



[Register with eScrip today](#)

SHOP AND EARN FOR SCHOOL

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more details about how you can SHOP and EARN for Walnut Acres



ARTS • ATHLETICS • ACADEMICS

[Labels for Education](#)



[Box Tops 4 Education](#)
Earn cash for our school!

Spirit Wear this year.

Collect Box Tops and drop them in the collection bin in the office.

This is the perfect way to show your school spirit and support the PFC!

Prices:

T-shirts from \$15

Hoodies \$25

Sizes available:

Youth Small (6/8)

Youth Medium (10/12)

Youth Large (14/16)

Youth X-Large (18/20)

Adult (S, M, L, XL)

GO JAGUARS!

Walnut Run for Education

Run or Volunteer at the 5K/10K **Walnut Run for Education on September 13th!**

Don't miss this great opportunity to support our schools by running or volunteering for the 2015 WalnutRun for Education, a 5K, 10K and kid's run through the streets of Walnut Creek on Sunday, September 13th. Proceeds from the race benefit the six PEAK Education Foundation schools, including Walnut Acres!



Register online or even on race day. **Be sure to indicate Walnut Acres Elementary** when asked during the registration process.

The Walnut Run begins at 8am on Sunday, September 13th.

More details can be found on the **WalnutRun website**. If you are unable to run but would still like to help support our schools you can volunteer to help with the race several days before or on race day. Click through to the **Volunteers SignUpGenius** form to sign-up for one of the many needed volunteer spots.

Run, walk or volunteer - it's fun.

Fall Enrichment Classes



Enrollment for the Fall Enrichment Classes is open now and classes begin the week of September 21st.

Enrichment Classes are held after school hours and are available on a first come/first serve basis for all Walnut Acres students, grades K - 5. There are a

variety of classes this year, including a few new choices.

The Enrichment page on the PFC website shows dates, times, prices, and enrollment procedures. All registration is done directly through the vendors.

Click the link to the [Enrichment Programs](#) page to see the incredible options available for our students.

Questions? Please email Kathy Ringot or Lia Bush at enrichment@walnutacrespfc.net.

After School Music Enrichment for 4th and 5th Grade

There is still time to enroll for the After School Music Enrichment Program for 4th and 5th Graders. This program is in addition to the Music Program that is provided during school hours.



Classes begin Wednesday September 30 and run from 12:45-1:45pm.

Please complete the form found on the [PFC website](#) and deposit in the enrichment box in the main office.

Emergency Food Kits



Please make sure (if you haven't already) that you have completed your student's Emergency Food Kit Request Form and either pay the \$5 fee (via check payable to WA PFC) for a pre-made snack kit, or provide your own food kit to the student's classroom. **Kits or payment are due by Friday,**

September 18th.

There are envelopes posted by the door of each classroom to drop off your form & check, or you can deliver it to the office and place it in the "Emergency Preparedness" bin.

For any questions, please contact your 2015/2016 Walnut Acres [EP Committee](#).

PFC Meeting: September 22

Our next PFC Meeting will be Tuesday, September 22nd, at 7pm in the Walnut Acres library.



All Walnut Acres parents are automatically members of our PFC and are encouraged to attend our monthly meetings. Agendas are posted approximately one week prior to the meetings and can be previewed on [our website](#). You can also read any previous meeting minutes on the same page.

So please join us as we discuss important upcoming PFC

events, as well as hear reports from both Principal and teachers. We hope to see you all there!

Innisbrook Gift Wrap Fundraiser



Mark your calendars! The Innisbrook Gift Wrap Fundraiser begins next week! It will run from Thursday, September 17 - Friday, October 2

Stock up on high quality gift wrap, gift bags, fun gifts and more for the holidays and throughout the year.

New this year is easy ordering. Just take orders, collect money and turn into Walnut Acres. No computer entry required.

Catalogs and order forms will be sent home home with your child next week.

Questions? Email giftwrap@walnutacrespfc.net

Shop and Earn for Walnut Acres

Thanks for supporting Walnut Acres Elementary! Together, we can made a big difference!

Boxtops for Education

Please check your child's backpack or binder this week for the Back to School Box Tops sheet. Please attach 25 box tops (or as many as you have!) and **return to school by October 1st**. All those box tops add up to easy money for Walnut Acres, so please check those boxes before you recycle!



Now Supporters can go directly to the **eScrip Online Mall** and earn for Walnut Acres. Anyone can earn for our school - even if they are not enrolled with eScrip - they can click on the link, shop or download AutoEARN, and earn anonymously!



Please note that Safeway has ended their participation with eScrip as of August 1st, 2015. We still have other ways to SHOP and EARN for WANUT ACRES!

Amazon Smile

Amazon will now donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to **Parent Faculty Club of Walnut Acres Elementary School** when you shop at AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com). Just log into your account and it will automatically donate every time you purchase from smile.amazon.com.

Target Red Card

Target's Red Card program allows its customers to earn a 5% discount and raise money for Walnut Acres on all purchases. Signing up is easy. Just go to <http://www.target.com/redcard/main>.

Please visit the [Shop and Earn page](#) on the PFC website for more information about more ways to we can shop and earn for our school. If you have any questions, please email Monica Chang or Erin Roeder at escrip@walnutacrespfc.net.

Community Service Day at Walnut Acres

Community Service Day

Save the Date... Saturday, October 10!

The City of Walnut Creek's Community Service Day is coming soon and you can help out by signing up to do your community service right here at Walnut Acres Elementary School!

Registration is open at the [City of Walnut Creek website](#). Jobs are available for adults and kids - some indoors and some outdoors. To sign up to work specifically at Walnut Acres, look for our school's two events: Walnut Acres Gardening and Campus Spruce-up and Walnut Acres School Library Book Cleaning.

7:30 am: Check in and free pancake breakfast at Heather Farm Park Community Center (optional)

8:45 am: Meet at Project Site

9:00 am: Work begins. Some project sites offer afternoon shifts.

More information is available [here](#). Sign up now to join our Jaguar Community in giving our wonderful school a little TLC!

[Dara Schwartz Buzzard](#) and [Courtney Wasserman](#), Co-Chairs representing Walnut Acres.



The Grape Gatsby 2016: Uncork the Fun!



We are already making plans for The Grape Gatsby auction fundraiser on March 4, 2016 and like crafting a fine wine, it takes hard work, perseverance, and lots of grapes!

So... what is your grape? Can you host a buy-in party? Do you have tickets to a sports event? Do you have unused gift cards? Your donations are key to making the 2016 auction our most successful vintage yet!

We are seeking the following:

Donations: (Amusement park tickets, exciting experiences such as tours of unique places, timeshare, hotel, wine, etc.)

Buy-in Parties: (Kids: 5th grade graduation, pool party, movie night, etc, Adults: Poker night, themed dinner, game night, spa party, etc.)

Volunteering your time as an auction team member

Need more inspiration? Check out the [**Donations Inspirations page**](#) on the PFC website.

Please email Janelle Webster at [**auctiondonations@walnutacrespfc.net**](mailto:auctiondonations@walnutacrespfc.net) or make a donation directly: [**http://walnutacres.schoolauction.net/auction2016**](http://walnutacres.schoolauction.net/auction2016)

JAGUAR FUND Supporting Every Child. Every Day.



Walnut Acres
**JAGUAR
FUND**

THANK YOU to the Walnut Acres families who have already contributed to the Jaguar Fund. Your commitment to supporting our children's education is phenomenal. If you haven't yet contributed, please [**go online**](#) and make your donation today. Remember that no gift is too small and every dollar makes a difference.

Another important source of funding is corporate matching. Remember that MOST corporations have matching programs; they are happy to support their employees in their charitable giving, and they get a tax break! Even if you think your company doesn't provide this benefit, it's

worth finding out for sure. Ask your HR contact or search your company's intranet. It takes only a minute to submit a matching request and it will double the impact of your gift. Our tax ID# is 94-2398637.

Questions? Email jaguarfund@walnutacrespfc.net

School Arrival Safety

Children's safety is a priority at Walnut Acres. There is no adult supervision prior to 7:45 am so children should not be dropped off at school before that time.

The side gate to our campus on Wiget is now open in the mornings to ease some of the traffic congestion during drop off.



All Walnut Acres volunteers (parents, grandparents, etc.) must sign-in at the office and obtain a visitor badge prior to volunteering in the classroom or for lunch patrol.

It is very tempting to want to park in an empty parking spot once you enter our campus. Please do not park in the staff parking spaces. We do not have enough room for our own staff members, some of whom already have to park off campus. Thank you for your cooperation.

If you are available to volunteer for the drive-thru drop off, please email drivethru@walnutacrespfc.net. It only takes about 15 minutes of your time.

Decoding Dyslexia

Are you concerned that your child is having trouble reading, sounding out words or spelling? Would you like advice from other parents about resources and technology that could help?



Please join us for our monthly **Decoding Dyslexia parent support group**. We will meet Sept. 14 at 7 p.m. in the community room of Church of the Resurrection, 399 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill.

This is a parent-run group for parents in the Mt. Diablo School District. For more information, please email [Amanda Szakats](mailto:Amanda.Szakats).

Food Allergy Awareness Group

Is your child affected by severe food allergies? Share experiences and advice while promoting community education and awareness.

Check out the new **Food Allergy Awareness group** on the Konstella Mobile App. Questions? contact [Megan](#)



[McBride.](#)

Seeking Lunch Patrol Volunteers

Do you miss your kids during the day? Then volunteer for Lunch Patrol! **We ask that each family volunteer for Lunch Patrol at least 3 times over the course of the school year.**



Lunch Patrol/First Aid volunteers assist at lunch and recess between 11:20 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. and it's a great way to visit with the kids while helping out the school.

Sign up on [Konstella](#) or email lunchpatrol@walnutacrespfc.net.

Details about Lunch Patrol responsibilities can be found on the [Lunch Patrol page](#) of the PFC website.

Tell your friends about Enews



If you know of families who are new to Walnut Acres, tell them about Enews. The Enews is sent bi-weekly with updates about school events and activities. Our incredible Principal, Dr. Dowd, also sends a monthly letter to all Enews recipients.

Sign up <http://www.walnutacrespfc.net/news/enews>

Don't miss out on important Walnut Acres communications!

If you no longer have students at Walnut Acres, you can also opt out of these communications by clicking on the link at the very bottom of this page.

Foothill Enews

Attention new 6th Grade Parents...

Is your student attending Foothill Middle School this year? If so, be sure to register to receive Foothill's Enews. [Sign up](#) to get all the latest news and information so you are in the loop and ready to go.



Volunteer Fingerprinting Information



Volunteers are a vital part of Walnut Acres, but only authorized volunteers are able to participate in classrooms and on campus. The MDUSD website offers more [volunteer information](#).

If you have not been fingerprinted yet, please call 682-8000, Ext. 4153 to schedule an appointment. Download the [volunteer form](#) from the MDUSD site.

Bring your TB test results and cash or check to your appointment.

Community Announcements

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Community Announcements](#) on the PFC Website give details about the latest events happening in and around our community. Swim season is coming!

To learn how to advertise your activity or event, go to the [PFC website](#).

Mt. Diablo Unified School District welcomes the participation of all students, parents, and community members in all District sponsored activities conducted on campuses or off-site. The District will work diligently to see that these activities are not limited by physical access barriers, thereby ensuring the opportunity for participation by all in these activities.

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