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September 21, 2015

Dear Parents,

I hope you had a wonderful weekend. Spaghetti Dinner week has arrived at WCS! Please join us at 6:00 p.m. in Waite Hall on the Yolo County Fairgrounds for some great food, live entertainment, and great conversation. Panorama Grass Fed Beef will be providing the ground beef for the sauce again, so the spaghetti should be excellent. The event is one of our main fundraisers for the year. No cost for admission or the meal, but an offering will be taken. We hope to see you Wednesday night.

Many of you have already responded with gift cards to help the many families whose lives have been devastated by the Butte fire. If you missed the email on Friday, check out the [short video](#) and attached [flyer](#) with information about our two-day event. You can still bring in gift cards to any of our school offices by tomorrow. We will get them up to the fire relief area by the end of this week. While we certainly feel for the folks dealing with the Valley fire, we have focused our efforts on the Butte fire, not knowing how much we would bring in and because of connections we have to people working on the front lines of the relief effort there.

We are less than a month away from the end of our first academic quarter. Hopefully, the lines of communication between the classroom and home are working well as this year's learning continues to build. It is also a good time to check in on some of our newer programs at WCS. One of the really exciting programs we have invested in is our middle school robotics and STEM program. The 44 7th and 8th grade students enrolled in our STEM elective have been assembling and programming LEGO Mindstorm robots. Check out the attached pictures and this [short video](#) to get an idea of what they are working on. We are hoping the hands-on nature of the class, combined with an introduction to engineering and programming will spark a passion in that area for our students.

I am continually reminded that I am a work in progress. This weekend, we traveled to the East Bay Area to visit our parents and my grandparents. They were excited to meet our daughter and we were excited about some help with supervision/holding the children. We had a great trip, but packing a family of four (plus a Beagle) was more challenging than expected. Two kids mean a double-stroller, which was not easy to fit. While unpacking, in fact, I tried to reload the double-wide, pushed the wrong part of the stroller, and had part of the stroller smack me in the forehead. Bleeding and tired from a long weekend of travel, the first thing that came to mind was not a praising of the Lord.

In Philippians 3, Paul describes his pressing on toward the goal of righteousness through faith in Christ. It is encouraging to know that even the Apostle Paul was a work in progress. We will all

experience moments of weakness and setbacks, let's pray that God would continue to work in us and make those moments less and less frequent. Have a wonderful week!

Thank you,
Justin Smith
Administrator
Woodland Christian School



