



# INTERNATIONAL IMPACT

## INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2009

**FROM A STUDENT:**

Some of you who read this letter would know that my name is Jack Kim. I've been at WCHS from freshman year and I'm a senior now. I really appreciate and want to show my gratitude toward my school and teachers by writing this because I was able to speak English enough to take regular classes. I went to the ESL campus for freshman year by bus in 2007. The first thought that came was doubt that I would be able to improve my English skills. However, it was a worthless question. The ESL teachers know how to teach someone like me who was not good at English. By participating in classes actively, I was able to learn how to read, write, and speak English better than before. There is one reason: good relationships with teachers and American friends. Also, I always try to keep a good relationship with teachers who are very generous to everybody. I was also reluctant to speak with them at first, but I felt their eagerness and changed myself. They are always open to you. Anyway, I talked more and more English and my skills just grew! I know that partnering with friends of the same heritage is good and enjoyable. However, that is not our American Dream. We came here to learn things. So open your mind, get American friends by joining sports teams or clubs like NHS or Interact and talk with them. Then, you will realize that you get something priceless as well as a fluent English skill. P.S. I appreciate all of you: Mrs. Nelson, Mr. Attwood, Ms. Petersen, Señor Ramirez, Ms. Scott, Mr. Mackie, Ms. Blakely, Ms. Blackman, Dr. Cruz and others who are not mentioned.

- Senior, Dong Ha "Jack" Kim

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

- September 24-Early Release 2:05 PM
- September 25 -Picture Make-up day
- Sept 30-Oct 2—Freshmen LIFE

**NOTES FROM MRS. NELSON**

MRS. LAURA NELSON, VICE PRINCIPAL, INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year! What an exciting year to be a member of the Western Christian School family! I know that there are many things to understand and you are busy trying to remember your class schedule. However, I want to remind you of some of the basic rules for international students here at WCHS. Rule number one is to use English at all times in your classes. It is so important that all students speak English so that they will gain proficiency. You will do better on your SAT and TOEFL if you are practicing English. Rule number two is to be at school everyday. Do not miss school unless you are sick with a fever.

You must have a note from a doctor if you miss more than one day. Never miss school to take the TOEFL, SAT, or driving test. That is an unexcused absence and you will receive a "O" in all of your class work, quizzes and tests if you have an unexcused absence. You might also be required to serve detention. Rule number three is to ALWAYS be respectful to all adults and to other students at Western. Of course, there are many other rules that can be found in the handbook as well as a list of other expectations on the international student policy paper that will be sent home to returning students (students who attended

international student orientation have already received and signed this form). In the Bible, Jesus identifies the two most important rules. He tells us that of all the rules in life, to love God and to love other people are the most important. If everything that you do is motivated by love, you will never hurt yourself or others. Love God and Love each other, this is most important. I want to thank those of you who brought me lovely gifts from home, I love them! Please take time to come and say hello to me in my office. I am thankful for each of you and I look forward to all that God will do in your life!

- Mrs. Nelson

**NEWS & UPDATES**

Welcome to the new school year at our new campus in the city of Upland, CA, home of the Lancers!

**MEET MISS SCOTT**

Welcome to Fall, 2009 at the new Upland campus! It has been such a blessing to see this campus transform into a new and permanent home for Western Christian High School. As we know, with new things come new responsibilities. As you are all part of the WCHS Lancer family, please work hard to respect our new campus to keep it safe and clean. God has blessed us with so much, let's take care of it!

Just as this new campus is brand new and fresh to WCHS, so is this new school year. Take the opportunity to start the year off strong by keeping organized, respecting your teachers and school rules, and planning for the future. What an exciting time to make new friends and prepare for university/college! May God richly bless you this year!

- Ms. Scott

**HOLIDAY TRAVELERS**

Students traveling this winter, make sure your I-20 is signed by Mrs. Nelson or Miss Scott. Travel dates for Winter: December 19-January 3. Students must return on time to begin school on January 4.

**SUMMER SCHOOL 2010**

If you are currently in an ESL class, you are required to attend Summer School. Do not make Summer plans to travel before August 1, 2010.

**INTERNATIONAL CULTURE CLUB**

If you want to be involved we will have a planning meeting to discuss this year's calendar of events. See Miss Scott to sign up to participate.

**HOST FAMILY INFORMATION**

You MUST NOT move from the home where you have been placed without getting permission from Mrs. Nelson.

If you are interested in being a host family, or if you are a student looking for a host family, please contact our homestay coordinator, Dinah Esquivel.

It's been exciting to meet and welcome new students and it's great to have our returning students back. I trust you had a great summer and are now ready and focused with expectations for an awesome school year on our new campus! A warm welcome to new host families and thank you to those families that continue to host another term. There are new changes and as a team we know that, "All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28)

**Dinah Esquivel**

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