



## Embrace the World This Month!

Our annual celebration of cultures, languages, and diversity, Embrace the World, will be held February 21 from 6:30-8:00pm. Bring the whole family to this free event to see your kids' classmates and others from the community representing countries and cultures from all over the globe (and right here in Michigan). Children will receive passports and "travel" from place to place learning and getting their passports stamped. There will also be performances at 7:30pm, including a mini concert from our Whitehills third grade classes.



We are seeking volunteers to serve as table hosts and help with logistics. Visit the WSA website and click on "I Want to Volunteer" to sign up, or contact event chair Joy Campbell via the WSA email.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Popcorn Friday**  
Friday, February 8

**Box Tops Winter II Deadline**  
Friday, February 8

**WSA Meeting**  
Tuesday, February 12  
6:00-7:30pm

**Presidents' Day—No School**  
Monday, February 18

**Marco's Pizza Night**  
Thursday, February 21

**Embrace the World**  
Thursday, February 21  
6:30-8:00pm

**Late Start Day: 10:45am start**  
Wednesday, February 27

**Science Club**  
2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>: Wednesday, February 27  
K-1<sup>st</sup>: Friday, March 1  
3:40-5:00pm

**Yearbook Order Deadline**  
Thursday, February 28

### Coming in March

- Teacher Appreciation Lunches 3/12 and 3/14
- Half days 3/12, 3/14, 3/19
- Late start day 3/20
- Science Fair 3/21
- Spring Break begins 3/29

## CONNECT WITH US

**Email**  
whitehillsparents@gmail.com

**Web**  
www.whitehillsparents.org

**Facebook**  
www.facebook.com/whitehillsparents

**Twitter**  
@whitehillsWSA

**Board**  
President: Joy Campbell  
Vice President: Jen Gorchow  
Treasurer: Jeff Hicks  
Secretary: Lorely Polanco

**Meetings**  
At 6:00pm, second Tuesday of each month in the library



## Think Ahead to Science Fair

Our student-driven Science Fair returns March 21. We had a great STEM Festival in the fall with adult presenters, and now it's our Wolves' turn. There's plenty of time for your child to plan a project! Visit the Whitehills Science Club website ([whitehillsscienceclub.weebly.com](http://whitehillsscienceclub.weebly.com)) for some great ideas on how to get started, and for information on how your child can sign up to present a project.

## See You Online!

The WSA website—updated weekly—is your one-stop shop for event information, the WSA Google calendar, links to our social media sites, upcoming volunteer opportunities, meeting minutes, news on fundraising initiatives, and a list of the projects the WSA has been able to support with those funds. Please visit often!  
[www.whitehillsparents.org](http://www.whitehillsparents.org)



# WOLF PACK WRITERS

Proudly featuring the work of Whitehills students



## My Trip to Barcelona

by Camila Doblás-Burt

Hello! Today I will be talking about my trip to Spain! For Christmas 2018 I went to Barcelona. My grandmother and my aunt live there. So do some of my second cousins. We toured around to see stuff like Roman ruins (artifacts from a long time ago), and went to a play called *Els Tres Porquets*, which was in Catalan, a local language that people speak in addition to Spanish. We also went to an amazing house designed by a famous architect named Gaudí: La Casa Batlló! Casa Batlló (pronounced bad-YO) is a huge house inspired by sea animals. It was fun speaking Spanish in Barcelona, but I missed speaking English, too. My favorite store there is called El Corte Inglés, and my favorite restaurant is a place called Viena. There I normally eat a long thin baguette with Spain's delicious ham and drink something like chocolate milk but sweeter, called *cacaolat*. For dessert I have a donut-like thing with a lot of chocolate in it! Do not confuse this Viena with the Vienna in Austria, though. I hope you can visit someday and see the amazing culture! Thanks for reading and have a happy year!



Above: Camila on the roof of Casa Batlló

## What Life is Like Down Under

by Grace Knake

When it is time for back-to-school shopping at Whitehills I get all the normal school supplies, but here in Australia we have to shop for our school uniform and all of the school supplies are provided by the school. On my first day of school I noticed one major difference—the way the school looked. It was almost the opposite of Whitehills. There are three floors and on each floor there are about three or four classrooms. There aren't any bathrooms connected to the classrooms, so the bathrooms are in the main office. Another difference is that we eat lunch in our classroom or outside. One of the biggest differences is that we call our teacher by his first name!

Can you find Barcelona, Spain and Melbourne, Australia on a globe? These students have had the opportunity to travel overseas, but you can learn more about other countries without even leaving East Lansing—join us at Embrace the World!

### ABOUT THE AUTHORS

**Camila Doblás-Burt** is a fourth grader in Ms. Foley's class. Her favorite thing is her new puppy, Apricot!

**Grace Knake** is eleven years old and goes to Albert Park Primary School in Melbourne, Australia. She loves playing with her dog Robbie and doing arts and crafts. She also likes to collect mini things.



Not only is my school different, but the neighborhood is also different from the Whitehills neighborhood. Here in Melbourne there are all kinds of shops and restaurants. It is also a 10-15 minute walk from the beach. One of the things that surprised me the most is that people drive on the other side of the road than we do and the steering wheel is on the right, not the left. Even though Melbourne is an amazing place, I still miss East Lansing.

At left: Grace in her school uniform; she is a Whitehills fifth grader who moved to Australia in January for six months while her mom does a research Fulbright there.

Have an idea for an article? Contact us at [whitehillsparents@gmail.com](mailto:whitehillsparents@gmail.com).