



The Welby Way  
**BEE LINE**

THE LATEST NEWS AT WELBY WAY CHARTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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[www.welbyway.org](http://www.welbyway.org)

April 2017

## The Challenging Work of A Parent

A Message from Daneh Gallo, Welby Way 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher

**“Children are not a distraction from more important work, they are the most important work.” - CS Lewis**

For most parents having children was an important decision that changed their lives forever. More important than any other work. But, how many of us sat and calculated the costs of having children, time requirements, decisions, sacrifices, best parenting practices, or all of the unknowns that come with parenting? Thankfully, not many of us, because the weight of all these decisions may have caused us to make a different choice.

As a mom of three I know that my girls bring me the greatest joys and the biggest fears. Fears of the unknown that cause me to question everything. Are we making the right choices for them? Do they have what they need to succeed? Are they learning to be responsible, kind humans? What will their future be? How can we provide more? What school should they attend? What college? **THEN I STOP!**

I stop and realize that these are not one-time decisions. These are questions that do not have an answer. These questions will be answered by choices our daughters make and all my husband and I can do is provide them with consistent guidance that will help them follow a path that that is right for them...NOT US.

We need to build a “safety wall” which they can swim to whenever they come face to face with “life”. This wall is not a place where we jump in and make choices for them or fix whatever it is that is challenging them. This is a wall where

## Important Dates!

**Mon. 4/10 – Fri. 4/14:** Spring Recess – School Closed

**Mon. 4/17:** Honors Assembly @ 8:15 a.m. for Primary Grades; @ 9:00 a.m. for Upper Grades

**Tues. 4/18:** Magnet Orientation @ 8:30 a.m.

**Tues. 4/18:** POWW Board Meeting @ 8:00 a.m.

**Tues. 4/18:** Site Council Meeting @ 7 p.m. in the Library

**Wed. 4/19:** Orchestra Concert @ 4:00 p.m. for Beginners; 7:00 p.m. for Intermediate

**Thurs. 4/20:** Last Charter Tour 8:30 a.m.

**Thurs. 4/20:** 1st Grade Parent Workshop "How to Prepare your child for 2nd Grade" @ 2:45 p.m. in Room 8

**Mon. 4/24 – Fri. 4/28:** Fitness Week

**Wed. 4/26:** 1st Grade Parent Workshop "How to Prepare your child for 2nd Grade" @ 2:45 p.m. in Room 11

**Fri. 4/28:** Charter Lottery @ 10:00 a.m.

**Sat. 4/29:** Mother/Daughter Event from 9:30 a.m. - Noon @ Northridge Skateland

**Thurs. 4/20:** Hale Complex Parent University: “Healthy Study Habits & Successful Interactions with Teachers”

**Thurs. 4/27:** Hale Complex Parent University: “Making it Through Middle School”

**Wed. 5/3:** Spring Sing @ 8:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. for Kinder/1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>/Chorus.

**Wed. 5/3 – Thurs. 5/4:** West Hills Pizza Night. 20% of proceeds go to Welby.

## Congratulations to our March Honor Assembly Winners!

**Kinder:** Lorenzo A., Julian P., Andersen K. **First:** Emma T., Prateek D., Sofie H., Adrienne F., Rithul S. **Second:** Ethan C., Sofia V., Anabel C., Mark O., Zachary G. **Third:** Kaylyn P., Shazaib N., Sofia K., June O., Sophia B., Ever M., Elliot D., Victor R. **Fourth:** Alejandra R., Saskia H., Caitlyn L, Megan H., Seri P., Nimran S., Robert O. **Fifth:** Annette P., Andrwe C., Dylan H., Sophia T., Mia K., Yaelle A., Victoria L., William M., Jason X.

## Congratulations to our February Honor Assembly Winners!

**Kinder:** Makenna E., Eden M., Jackson Y. **First:** Vann W., Victor H., Maya M., Prateek D., Chloe C. **Second:** Luc B., Jordan L., Jonathan H., Raga K., Lilah M., Malayna H. **Third:** Chloe J., Greyson G., Kate H., Madeline K., Nikhil M., Kasey L., Sebastian M. Jessalyn T. **Fourth:** Matea J., Connor P., Mia H., Kylie H., Ely L., Brianna E., Kavya M., Christophe G. **Fifth:** Ayala A., Logan G., Jake S., Daniela G., Isabella M., Hunter N., Kyra S., Lizzie T., Rachel L., Joshua P.

they can simply hold on and think. Think about options and choices that will help them make the best possible decision in the situation. This is a place where my husband and I can actually do the most **important** job we will ever have...PARENTING. We will parent them by helping them see the power they have in making the right choices, which are often hard and uncomfortable. We will parent them by guiding them to see the situation from different perspectives. They will be encouraged to take responsibility for their part in every situation. We will make it clear to them that this is not the worst situation they will face, as life is full of difficulty. Once they feel confident enough to make the best choice, they can swim away knowing that the "safety wall" will be there when further guidance is needed.

This method of parenting is called **authoritative parenting**, which is the extreme opposite of what is known as the helicopter parent. Helicopter parents are those who pay very close attention to every detail of their child's life and get involved with decisions as often as possible; they hover with no exceptions.

**Authoritative parents are those who have high expectations of their children and provide them with support, yet do not coddle them. They allow them to fall and experience life at every age. Giving their kids opportunities to make age appropriate decisions that will lead them to becoming strong, resilient adults who will be successful in life. Which type of parent are you? Take a minute and think about your parenting style.**

Parenting is our most important work and our kids are counting on us to do our best. Learning about this important work is a must. Every stage is different and comes with new challenges. It is not something that we should shy away from, but rather something we should embrace and learn the most we can about. There is no such thing as the "perfect parent." Parenting is more of an art and not a science. Much is learned through trial and error, but equipping ourselves with knowledge will help the process. **Please join us at our Parent Universities held after school at Welby Way to learn more about parenting methods that will help your child be the resilient person they need to be to succeed in this world.**

Hale Complex Parent University Dates:

Raising a Resilient Child Series

**April 20th - Healthy Study Habits & Successful Interactions with Teachers**

**April 27th - Making it Through Middle School**

**May 8th - Elementary School Success K-3**

**May 25th - Life on the Playground**

**June 1st - The Pressure of Social Media**



\*\*\*\*\* **POWW Updates** \*\*\*\*\*



**FITNESS WEEK IS COMING – APRIL 24 – APRIL 28:** Mark your calendars – it is going to be a fun week! Students will be invited to participate in a spirit walk – parents are welcome too! Tuesday, 4/25: 1<sup>st</sup> grade walks at 8:10 and 5<sup>th</sup> grade at 9:00. Wednesday, April 26: 2<sup>nd</sup> grade walks at 8:10 and 4<sup>th</sup> grade at 9:00. Thursday, April 27: 3<sup>rd</sup> grade walks at 8:10 and Kinder walks at 9:00. The Fitness Awards Assembly will be on Friday, April 28. More information on our Fitness Week activities will be coming home soon.

**MOTHER/DAUGHTER EVENT TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, APRIL 29:** Welby's Annual Mother/Daughter Event will be held at Northridge Skateland from 9:30 a.m. – Noon on Saturday, April 29. More information will be sent home soon.

**OUR LOST AND FOUND SHEDS ARE OVERFLOWING.** Any items not claimed by Friday, April 7 will be donated to charity. Please have your students check to see if there are items that belong to them. Please label all items that come to school with your student's name and room number.

**INTERESTED IN JOINING THE POWW BOARD?:** Parents of Welby Way (POWW) is looking for some new recruits to sit on the 2017/2018 board. Applications are due on May 5. The board is open to all parents who have current students at Welby Way. Meetings are held once a month and we ask our board members to be a lead on one of our events/fundraisers. It is a great way to be involved and to also make integral decisions on raising funds to help enrich our school and our children. If more applications **then** than openings are received, we will hold a vote at our board meeting on May 16, 2017.

**PLEASE VISIT OUR WELBY WAY WEBSITES:**

[www.welbyway.org](http://www.welbyway.org) and [www.parentsofwelbyway.com](http://www.parentsofwelbyway.com)



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