

# Washlines

Where  
Life and Learning  
Connect!

THE NEWSLETTER FOR

W I L L M A R   A R E A   S C H O L A R S   A T   H O M E   I N C .

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Back to School—getting ready for a great year!
- Homeschooling: Why It Matters
- Fun Tips & Ideas for an efficient, & organized Home-school.
- Get ready to have fun! Lots of WASH activities & events just around the corner!

### “BACK TO SCHOOL”

With Summer nearly past and Autumn just around the corner, we watch as the last bit of summer vacation fades away. With the change of seasons comes cooler nights and shorter days. Our work changes some, too, with lots of things to be done before winter comes to Minnesota, as well as getting a fresh start to another year of school. After picking out our supplies, we pick up our books, and start to settle in to the unique pace and lifestyle Homeschooling brings. Fresh with enthusiasm from those warm, sunshine filled days of summer, we start again, and get back to school. As you and your family start this school year, we hope that it is filled with lots of learning and lots of fun. School doesn't have to be just *survivable*.

Your homeschool really can *thrive!*



In this newsletter, we've focused in on the topic of "Back to School", bringing some helpful tips and ideas on managing our time, how you can get the most out of your Home Educating journey, as well as some creative ideas on how to get (and keep) your school room functional & organized! WASH will also be offering a Bus Trip again this year, coming up late September, so be sure to sign up and mark it on your calendars! Also enclosed

with this newsletter are membership forms for the 2018-19 academic year. If you choose to join us this year, please fill out the forms and enclose a \$30 membership fee. Make checks out to WASH - Willmar Area Scholars at Home and return by SEPTEMBER 7. Your membership entitles you to monthly newsletters, email updates, discounts on field trips, membership directory, membership card and monthly activities. If you know of someone else home schooling, please feel free to make copies of the membership forms and pass them along. Thank you for considering WASH; we hope you'll join us! May you have a wonderful school year, and are blessed in choosing this God-given opportunity of Home Education.

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### HOME SCHOOL REPORTING

It's that time of year again! When fall rolls around, that means it's time to fill out those Annual Reporting Forms. Just a friendly reminder to submit your documents to your local school district by October 1st. A Compulsory Form is due on or before that date.

Go to [www.mache.org](http://www.mache.org), click on Legal and then "Annual Reporting Forms". This form provides all the information we are legally asked to provide. Please use these forms instead of the State of Minnesota forms, which your school district may send you. Those

forms will ask for you to provide more information than we are legally required to provide. For more info, go to [www.mache.org/legal/](http://www.mache.org/legal/) or feel free to contact us with any questions!

## W . A . S . H . B U S T R I P

Save the date of Friday, September 28 for the WASH bus trip. We will be going to the Bell Museum to see the planetarium show and tour the gallery. We will then go to the Raptor Center for the Raptors of Minnesota program. We will leave Willmar

8:30 am and not be back till evening. Please register soon as the deadline is Friday, September 7 at noon. Cost is \$15/person. 3rd Grade and up welcome.

Registration form and more detailed information is located on the insert page included in this mailing. See you on the coach bus!



## W H Y H O M E S C H O O L I N G I S W O R T H I T

*Homeschooling: Does it really matter? Is it really worth it?* Those are the two common questions Home Educators face. We've all heard the excuses: "My students might be too sheltered"..."I don't know where or how to

start"..."It would be so exhausting!"..."It's too much responsibility"..."I could never do all that!"..."I don't have time!"

But is that *really* the case?

That is the question that must be addressed.

To start with, we must realize that, yes, it is true that homeschooling *does* require effort. It takes time, energy, space to some extent, resources, as well as the knowledge of how

to handle various situations and requirements. On the other hand, however, other options of schooling require sacrifices as well, just in different ways.

Really, what it all comes down to, is how we use our time. Do we have our priorities in order? Are we making the most out of each moment God has blessed us with?

Do we use our limited amount of time and resources to accomplish things that are really worthwhile?

God's Word reminds us of the brevity of our lives, comparing our lives to a vapor that appears for a little while (James 4:14) & a flower of the field that flourishes for a time, and then fades away (Psalm 103:15).

Knowing that our time here on earth is limited; that our days are numbered (Psalm 39:4-5; 139:16) certainly makes us think about our lives, & how we use them. With that in mind, it should spur us on to best managing our limited amount of time in this short life that God has blessed us with, so we can accomplish the many responsibilities that God has given us — those of highest value, utmost

importance, & worth our time.

The things that Home Educating may initially take away from you—things like your own time and energy—you receive back in even greater, more worthwhile blessings—blessings that are far more lasting than those things you initially "gave up". To be able to walk alongside your children as they grow, to watch them learn, to cherish those little moments rather than taking them for granted, to teach them truths from Scripture, the privilege of spending more of that fleeting, precious, God-given time with your family, the ability to pursue those things we hold so dear: Faith, Family, & Freedom. These are the values worth protecting. These are the things that really matter. This is what makes Homeschooling worth it!

*"The things that Home Educating may initially take away from you—things like your own time and energy—you receive back in even greater, more worthwhile blessings."*

## O . C . C . S H O E B O X S U P P L I E S O N S A L E

The season for packing shoe box gifts for the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child program is coming up soon! Although shoeboxes and supplies are accepted year round, National Collection Week this year is November 12-19. Whether you participate in a group or pack them individually as a family, now is a great time to buy supplies while stores offer back-to-school sales, and discounts on college dorm room supplies! For more info on what to pack in a your shoe box, check out their website: <https://www.samaritanpurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

## H S L D A O F F E R S O N L I N E A C A D E M Y

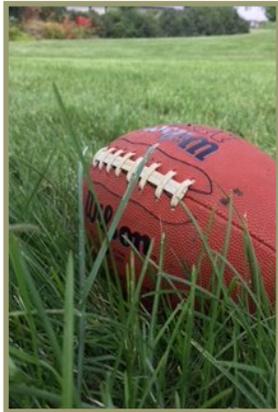
Did you know that the Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA) offers online courses? Since 2009, HSLDA's Online Academy has been serving families by

providing high-quality online educational courses. Taught with a Biblical worldview, HSLDA's Online Academy Courses offer students the ability to learn academically

and grow spiritually, while learning valuable life skills. HSLDA's Online Academy is geared towards students Grades 8<sup>TH</sup> — 12<sup>TH</sup>, and also offers college prep courses.

To find out more about what HSLDA's Online Academy has to offer, check out their website, at: <https://academy.hsllda.org/>

Y M C A H O M E S C H O O L P H Y . E D .



Get ready to have some fun! This Program offers Home Schooling families Physical Education in a fun, safe, and cost-efficient setting. The program is developed for two age groups: K-3rd grade from 8:15 – 9:15am and 4th–7th grade from 9:30-10:30am. Participants will develop teamwork abilities, peer interaction, motor skills and coordination while emphasizing the YMCA core values of Caring, Honesty, Respect and Responsibility.

2018/2019 Program Dates:

September 14, October 12, November 9, December 14, January 11, February 8, March 8, April 12, May 10.

Program Fees: \$5 per session.

You can sign up at the YMCA or register online at: <https://www.kandiyymca.org/registration>

The September activity is Football.

In October, they will be working on soccer skills.

2018-19 ENRICHMENT CLASSES

Classes are being offered in science, art, geography, physics, and engineering. These classes are independently taught, and are not a WASH sponsored event. For more info about these enrichment classes contact Paula at 320-894-7019 or at [abby@tds.net](mailto:abby@tds.net)

ORGANIZING YOUR HOMESCHOOL!

Like many of us, when fall rolls around and summer comes to a close, we start to think of school. Books & workbooks. Pencils & pens. Scissors & glue. Depending on age and grade, there is different curriculum, different supplies, and different needs. Then, there is always papers to file and store, and those that you still need to be able to access readily – regardless of the age or grade of the student. To say the least, there are many aspects – and challenges – to consider, in organizing your homeschool so that it effectively meets all your unique needs. Whether you are a homeschool mom or student, whether you share a schoolroom or have your

own room to study in, and regardless of how much space you have, we hope that you'll find some ideas that you'll love and that work for you, helping to make your homeschool fun, efficient, and functional!

- GETTING ORGANIZED: Cubbies, crates, baskets, & jars all are great options for containing clutter in an orderly fashion.
- OPTIMIZE VERTICAL SPACE: Get the most out of those tight spaces by incorporating bookcases or floating shelves.
- READING NOOK: Incorporate a fun, designated area to

learn (and relax) by creating a fun reading nook. Window benches are classic options and provide wonderful natural light. Add some cute pillows and a cozy throw to create a new favorite spot you'll love.

- GET CREATIVE: Think outside the box! Use old dressers, chests, and crates to create unique storage pieces that are as functional as they are decorative!

We hope you find these ideas helpful & inspiring!

**Happy Organizing!**

*“Regardless of how much space you have, we hope that you’ll find some ideas that you’ll love and that work for you, helping to make your homeschool fun, efficient, and functional!”*

MEMBERSHIP & PHOTO SUBMISSION DEADLINES

To join W.A.S.H., Inc. for the 2018-19 Academic Year, simply fill out and return the included Membership Form to W.A.S.H., Inc. by September 22. If submitting a family photo for the W.A.S.H.

Member Directory, please submit by Sept. 22, also.

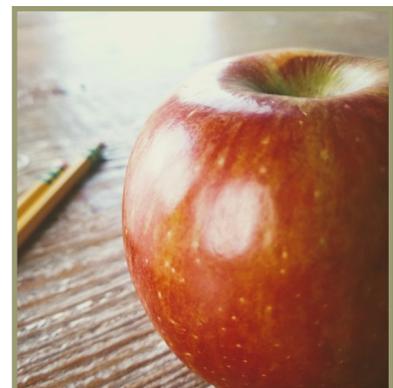
We have some great activities planned for this year and are excited to see what the 2018-19 school year will hold!

We hope you'll join us!

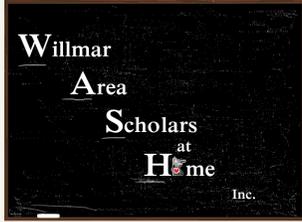
Interested in joining WASH but have a few questions? Drop us a line at:

[info@washlines.org](mailto:info@washlines.org)

We are here to help you!



**WILLMAR AREA SCHOLARS AT HOME, INC.**



*Where  
Life and Learning  
Connect!*

**W.A.S.H. BOARD MEMBERS**

Feel free to contact a member of the WASH board with any questions or comments! You can also send an e-mail to [info@washlines.org](mailto:info@washlines.org)

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**~ VERSE OF THE MONTH ~**

*"Train up a child in the way he should go:*

*And when he is old, he will*

*not depart from it."*

*- Proverbs 22:6 -*

**NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION POLICY**

WASH exists to be a support to home educating families in the Willmar area and one way we do that is through our monthly newsletter. The policy that we have adopted as what is published in the newsletter is: *The WASH Board of Directors reserves the right to publish or not publish any information they deem best. When an article is considered for publication, the board will take into consideration the WASH calendar, WASH's liability for any event, and the article's benefit to the homeschooling community. If you would like to have an article published, please e-mail your articles to [info@washlines.org](mailto:info@washlines.org). The board will look over your article, publish it if appropriate, call you with further questions, or let you know that the article can not be published and the reason why. If you have any questions on this policy, please contact a member of the board.*

**- CALENDAR OF EVENTS -**

- W.A.S.H. BUS TRIP REGISTRATION DEADLINE ..... SEPTEMBER 7
- YMCA PHY. ED. PROGRAM (FOOTBALL) ..... SEPTEMBER 14
- MEMBERSHIP & PHOTO SUBMISSION DEADLINE ..... SEPTEMBER 22
- DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS ..... SEPTEMBER 26
- W.A.S.H. BUS TRIP ..... SEPTEMBER 28
- ANNUAL REPORTING FORMS DUE TO YOUR SCHOOL DISTRICT ..... OCTOBER 1