



From the Principal's Desk

Ms. Neela Thakur

At Emerson-Williams Elementary School, we use the three important principles of Respect, Responsibility, and Safety to guide our daily behavioral instruction with students at all times. Using these three guiding principles, we are able to explicitly teach students what constitutes excellent behavior at Emerson-Williams, as well as why certain choices are not good. If you are able to reinforce the importance of these three principles at home with your children, that would be a huge help to us at school. When students are behaving well at school (which is almost always!) we love to praise them and to specifically point out the really clear way in which they were demonstrating Respect, Responsibility, or Citizenship. We award students with Tiger Paws of Recognition and we announce their names during our Morning Announcements when they have been caught doing something great in one of these three categories by any one of our staff members. Also during our Morning Announcements, we give shout outs to entire classrooms of students who have been behaving beautifully at school. Teaching appropriate behavior and good citizenship is a very important part of our job here.

As we approach the end of the school year, we have been noticing some behaviors from some students in some areas of the building that have not been outstanding, despite our explicit teaching and reminders of what is expected and required at school. At this time, if you could assist us at home in reinforcing your behavior expectations at home for your child that would be greatly appreciated.

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From the Principal's Desk *continued...*

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For the most part, the behavior in the classroom with the classroom teachers has been excellent. The three main areas where we would like to see improvement would be:

- 1) In the cafeteria
- 2) At recess (both indoor and outdoor)
- 3) In the halls while transitioning to and from lunch and recess with the lunch teachers

We do require students to be silent, in line, and orderly while transitioning in the halls. We teach students how to do this; we practice this with them; and we remind them that this is how we demonstrate Respect for the teachers who are in the classrooms teaching, students who are in the classrooms trying to learn, and for the secretaries who are working hard in the Main Office. In the cafeteria, we have been teaching students how to be respectful of all the cafeteria workers, by using great manners and by saying please and thank you. While lunch is a time for students to have fun and socialize, we do not allow any yelling, and we do not allow students to get out of their seats unless they need to get a napkin or throw away their garbage. At recess, again, this is a time for students to have fun, socialize, and run around. We have been noticing too many students getting physical as they are playing around. We do not allow any physical contact at school, even in fun. Students can get hurt or agitated in the process, so we teach students that they must keep their hands to themselves at all times. At this point in the school year, our students know they may be receiving lunch detentions, after school detentions, and other consequences if they are choosing to not demonstrate Respect, Responsibility, and Safety at all times. At home, if you could remind your children that there are consequences for making poor choices at school (and that you will follow through with consequences at home as well), that would be very helpful to us. Again, for the most part, our students' behavior in the classroom with their classroom teachers is pretty outstanding on a very consistent basis. It is during these other times of our school day where we would all like to see some improvements. Thank you so much for your help with this!

Message from the Presidents....

Hello Emerson-Williams Families!

TV Turn off week is here! We already had a few events successfully transpire and the remainder of the week looks to be exciting as well, especially with the weather looking wonderful this week.

The Wolf Pack game and Talent show are coming up at the end of the week:

Wolf Pack Night is Friday at 7:00pm. We will have the Chorus and the Band at the start of the game and 1st intermission. Get there early, as we want to support their efforts to be great! We will have Sonar pick the winners of the Zamboni rides on Tuesday at Cherry Berry. Tickets will be coming home with your children this week, so please look for a confirming email when the tickets have been sent home. Please make sure your children are aware that tickets will be given to them (if you have not received your tickets already) and to make sure they get them home to you. We do not have extras, and the tickets are now paid for.

The Talent show will be happening on Saturday April 18th and they too have been working extremely hard to bedazzle everyone that attends. It is a great way to finish up the week.

Nominations for next year's Board (1st Year Co-President, Treasurer, and Secretary) are being prepared. If you are interested, you still have time. Please contact Leslie Williams or Paula Heinzmann if you need further information.

At the last PTO meeting, we discussed 2 new committees being formed. The Finance Committee and Investment Committee were discussed and defined. Currently, we have a chair and a few members that have signed up for the Finance Committee. We are still looking for a chair for the Investment Committee. A more detailed description of these committees and their roles will be on the PTO website (www.ewpto.com) very soon!

Finally, the largest fund raiser of the year is also rapidly approaching. The Strawberry Festival is going to be here in June. We will be, once again, searching for volunteers to help us run tables, food stations, raffle sales, etc. We will have sign up sheets in the upcoming weeks, as we did last year, on our PTO website. Please provide us with an hour or two of your time for this event. Last year was a huge success, as we exceeded budget. We could not have done this without the help of the volunteers that make the festival fun for the kids and adults alike. So, please be on the lookout for Facebook Posts and emails in the upcoming weeks!

Paul LaPerriere – 2nd Year Co-President

Nathalie Trevitazzo – 1st Year Co-President

“Children close their ears to advice, but open their eyes to example”

2015 PTO Meeting Schedule

7:00pm Upper Media Center

May 14 • June 11

www.ewpto.com

Special Notices

BOX TOPS! Congratulations to Mrs. Moore's class for winning the Box Tops collection contest with 821 Box Tops! Way to go! Mrs. Harris' class came in second place with 642, followed by Mrs. Cookson's class with 376! Outstanding! EW earned \$598.20 in just this one collection period! With this submission, EW's Box Tops total is \$1600! This is the most money EW has ever earned! Please continue to collect and save your Box Tops. We will do one more submission in early June! Remember, Box Tops are dimes and disguise. They add up quickly and are free money for our school!

Wethersfield Schools Parent Council

Parents: please take the time to go to the WSPC website at www.wspc-ct.org for important information about our schools.

Suggestion Box: The EWPTO website has now incorporated a suggestion box as well as an email address that parents can use EXCLUSIVELY to make suggestions about potential fundraisers or special events that they'd like their children to experience. We need NEW and fresh ideas of ways to raise funds for our programs as well as bring our families together for fun activities. Please take a moment and review the website or email us with your thoughts. We really appreciate it! Also, please bear in mind that this is made available for suggestions about NEW events and not to exchange ideas or recommend changes to existing fundraisers/activities. If you'd like to lend a hand with current events, please join us at our next PTO meeting! Thank you all so much.

<http://www.ewpto.com/suggestionbox.html>
SuggestionBox@ewpto.com

From the Music Department: Our instrumental music teacher, Ms. Emily Caravella, has developed a website for parents to use in order to get updates on their child's instrumental activities. To view the website, please go to www.emersonwilliamsbandstrings.weebly.com. Parents of children not currently in this music program can find information and are welcome to reach out to Ms. Caravella at any time.



Special Notices *continued....*

Labels for Education The Labels for Education program is currently running two bonus programs that can benefit EW by awarding EW Scholastic Books for the Library as well as much-needed athletic, art, music and academic equipment. Just clip and save Labels for Education bar/UPC codes from products you use every day, then drop them in the Labels for Education box outside the main office by March 27, 2015. Labels for Education products include Post Cereals, Dannimals Yogurt, Pepperidge Farm, Campbell's, Emerald, Pop Secret and Glad. Check out Labelsforeducation.com for a complete list of participating products. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Koziol (skoziol2011@hotmail.com or [860-529-3562](tel:860-529-3562)).

WSPC Volunteer of the Year Award: The Wethersfield Schools Parent Council, WSPC, is a town wide parent group that works to improve Wethersfield Public Schools through communication, coordination and advocacy.

WSPC parent volunteers include two or more representatives from each school who meet regularly for the benefit of all Wethersfield students.

Each year, WSCP honors one individual from each school who has made valuable contributions to the Wethersfield Public Schools. Past winners include PTO presidents and other people who have volunteered their time for the benefit of EW and all of Wethersfields' schools.

The Goals of the Wethersfield Schools Parent Council:

To unify and strengthen local parent teacher groups by facilitating the exchange of information and to encourage working together to achieve common goals.

To develop among parents, educators, town government and the Wethersfield community, a united effort to secure for all children and youth, the greatest opportunities in physical, mental and social education.

To coordinate advocacy on appropriate issues that affect the quality of education and well being of children in the town of Wethersfield.

Please nominate the person(s) that you believe are most deserving of the WSCP Volunteer of the Year from EW by completing the simple Volunteer Nomination form (available at this month's PTO meeting or by contacting Sharon Koziol (skoziol2011@hotmail.com)). The nominee will be honored at an award's ceremony in May along with the nominees from the Town's other schools.

Poetry Month--April 2015 Emerson-Williams School

We love to celebrate National Poetry Month at Emerson-Williams School! Our tradition is to place our Poetry Mailbox near the office and invite students to fill the mailbox with their original poems. Then, the students' poems are mounted and hung for all to see.

Every other year, in May—just following Poetry Month—we also host an afternoon or evening of poetry, in which students are invited to recite their poem(s) before an audience. While we held our Afternoon of Poetry event last year, there have been requests to offer this event again this year.

So...help is needed, both during Poetry Month and for our Afternoon of Poetry.

Items Needed:

Construction Paper on which to mount our poet's poems!

School Specialty:

1 pack: Item #9-090206-030 (12" x 18", 150-pack) @ \$13.05

Note: I believe S & H is free for orders from WPS

Potted flowering plants: 6 or 7 of them (approx. \$8. to \$10. Each?) to serve as decorations for the stage for our Afternoon of Poetry (Date in early to mid May TBD)

Volunteers Needed:

During the month of April, 1 or 2x/week: checking the Poetry Mailbox for new poems, copying students' poems, mounting them on construction paper, and hanging up the mounted poems for all to see.

Help with An afternoon of Poetry (Date in early to mid May, TBD):

- Coordinating refreshments (enlisting volunteers to provide refreshments and paper products, and setting them up for the event) for...probably 40 or 50 poets and their families. A bouquet of flowers for the refreshment table, too
- Setting up the stage: at 2:45 (5 or 6 chairs and a few props)

If you can help, please contact:

Brenda McLaughlin

Reading & Language Arts Consultant

bmclaughlin@wethersfield.me

Thank you!

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If you can help, please contact:

Brenda McLaughlin

Reading & Language Arts Consultant

bmclaughlin@wethersfield.me

Thank you!

Wethersfield High School Bicycle Club is hosting a morning of fun for the whole family!

Fun 2nd Annual Wethersfield, CT Free* Bicycle Festival/Show/Swap Meet



Buy/Sell/Trade Bikes and Parts



Ride/Show Off Your Bikes
Check Out/ Vote for Some Cool Rides



DEMOS and FLAT TIRE CHANGING CLINIC.

INDOOR / OUTDOOR

The Wethersfield High School Bicycle Club is hosting a Family Friendly Bicycle Festival/Show/Swap Meet in Old Wethersfield on Saturday June 6th, from 8am-12:30 (sellers can arrive at 7:00am).
General Admission is FREE* – Sellers only \$25/Space*

RAIN/SHINE

*\$10 discount for sellers traveling solely by bicycle

Swap Meet Sellers – Enter Through...
Stillman Building Parking Lot.
127 Hartford Ave, Wethersfield, CT 06109

Contact
tbrown@wethersfield.me

General Parking – and Seller Overflow
50 Francis Street (Hanmer Elementary)
Wethersfield, CT 06109

All styles are welcome...Mountain, Road, BMX, Cruiser, Banana Seat, Vintage, Modern, Antique+

www.ewpto.com

Looking for information? Check www.ewpto.com for links to school and PTO forms, events, fundraisers, Tiger Topics, lunch menus and the digital backpack (online copies of the school-wide notices that come home with your child each week).

Please check us out and “LIKE US” on Facebook!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

May 1st **Yankee Candle Delivery**
May 6th **Walk/Bike to School Day!**

Box Tops for Education

Box Tops for Education has helped America’s schools earn over \$400 million since 1996. You can earn cash for Emerson-Williams by clipping Box Tops coupons from hundreds of participating products. Box Tops also offers online ways to earn even more cash for Emerson-Williams.

Check out www.btfе.com for a list of participating products, as well as online earning opportunities.

Advice

from EW teachers to our students on how to have a successful school year:

Show up on time, and be prepared.

Play outdoors!

Keep a positive attitude.

Be kind to everyone.

Look for more advice in future issues of Tiger Topics!

Board of Education

You can find information about the Board of Education’s members, policies, minutes and schedule for upcoming meetings by visiting their website:

<http://www.wethersfield.k12.ct.us/page.cfm?p=1643>

Target: Help Us Help Our School

There's an easy way to help us raise money for our school –for books, reading programs and anything else that can use extra funding. It's called Take Charge of Education, and it's helping our school right now. It's great for you too! REDcard holders receive a 5% discount on purchases, and free shipping on Target.com orders. Visit Target.com/tcoe or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate our school, then use your REDcard whenever you shop. When you use your REDcardSM (Target® Visa® Credit Card, Target Credit Card® or Target Check Card®), Target will donate up to 1% of your purchases to the eligible K–12 school of your choice. Don't have a REDcard? Apply in person at any Target store or go to Target.com/redcard. Grandparents, alumni, friends and neighbors are all welcome to participate in the program. The more people we involve, the harder the program works for our school. If you're already participating, thank you! Check out our school's progress anytime at Target.com/tcoe.

Donate Your Unused Coupons

Wethersfield High School student Joseph Sottile is collecting expired and unused manufacturers' coupons to donate to U.S. military families in other countries. Military commissaries overseas accept expired coupons. Last year Joseph received the Board of Education's CABE award and a Youth in Action award for this project. Please drop off your coupon circulars or clipped coupons in the donation box at school, or to Joseph Sottile, in the bin on the front porch at 131 Cider Brook Drive.

Holiday Store

The holidays over, but we still need help! The holiday store needs wrapping paper every year! Please take this opportunity to donate any unused wrapping paper from this past holiday. You can bring any unused wrappings to the main office to be brought to the PTO closet. Thank you all for making this event such a success!

Holiday Store Co-Chairs:

Janet Carbo and Karen Dicenso



Monday April 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2015	11:00am: MOTHER GOOSE TIME: Birth-21 months Stimulating lapsit program. Includes sharing board books, nursery rhymes & bouncing games. <u>Parent participation is key!</u> Registration is required
Monday April 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2015	4:00pm: LEGO® JUNIOR MAKERS : 1 st - 3 rd graders Books and LEGO® bricks come together in this fun, hands-on program that will spark children's creativity. Registration is required
Tuesday April 14, 2015	6:00pm: PROJECT: CREATE!: 3 rd - 6 th graders From LEGO® masterpieces to video game coding, join us and create something awesome! Registration is required
Tuesday April 21, 2015	6:30pm: PIZZA & PAGES: 4 th - 6 th graders Nutmeg Award Book Discussion Series with a light supper. April title: Saint Louis Armstrong Beach by Brenda Woods Registration is required
Wednesday April 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29, 2015	10:30am: BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS: 3-5 year olds This program is designed to help develop pre-reading skills and to enjoy theme based stories, fingerplays, songs & games. Registration is required
Thursday April 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30, 2015	10:30am: WEE READ: 22-35 months Exciting program where toddlers begin to appreciate longer stories & participate in group activities. <u>Parent participation is key!</u> Registration is required
Thursday April 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30, 2015	6:00pm: READY, SET... READ, MATH, SCIENCE: 4-6 year olds Specially designed activities that make reading, math, and science come alive. Registration is required
Friday April 10, 17, & 24, 2015	10am -12 noon: DROP-IN PLAYTIME + 10:45am: SHORT & SWEET STORYTIME: all ages Drop-in family fun with a story and a song.
Collection on Display	John John Saladin's monster truck collection
NOW SHOWING! (on flat screen @ Children's information desk)	Pictures from March 2015 Events
Themed book displays: (include booklists, coloring or activity sheets)	Let it Grow!: Gear up for spring with books about flowers and gardening. Read Alongs: Picturebook with audio CD kits to help your child read along while listening to the story. Super Heroes: Check out books about Batman, Spider-man, and many more. Princess Tales: Enchanting tales about princesses and royalty!
Word of the Month	Callithumpian Define the word and where it originated. All work must be completed in the library using library materials – no computers. If your answer is correct, you will be entered into a drawing to win a free large, plain pizza from Village Pizza.

Attention United Way Donors!

If you donate to the United Way through your workplace, did you know that you can designate Emerson-Williams PTO as the beneficiary of your donation? If you have any questions or need help, please contact Paul LaPerriere for more information.



Volunteer

If you are interested in heading up one of our PTO committees OR simply want to join a committee to find a way to get involved, please contact Paul LaPerriere or Nathalie Trevitazzo as soon as possible. At the November PTO meeting, we will be assessing the committees that do not have chairs in order to determine if those activities/events will be eliminated. It's so important that we hear from you to make sure the events that your kids love continue to take place. Please go to www.ewpto.com and check out the committee list to see if anything matches your interests.

Babysitters Needed

Calling all E-W families that have High Schoolers: If your students need to pick up some community service time, we have an opportunity for them! Every month we need three babysitters for our PTO meetings. Responsibilities include monitoring school aged children during the meeting and ensuring that the classroom that is used gets left exactly as we found it! To get put on the schedule, please contact Paul LaPerriere at plaperriere.pto@gmail.com or 860-538-3698.

Labels for Education

Labels for Education allows our school to earn free merchandise such as athletic, art, music and academic equipment. Just clip and save Labels for Education bar codes from products you use every day, then drop them in the Labels for Education box outside the main office. Labels for Education products include Post, Pepperidge Farm, Campbell's, Dannon, Emerald, Pop Secret and Glad. Check out Labelsforeducation.com for a comprehensive list of participating products. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Koziol (skoziol2011@hotmail.com or 860-529-3562).

Classified

Your advertisement here...

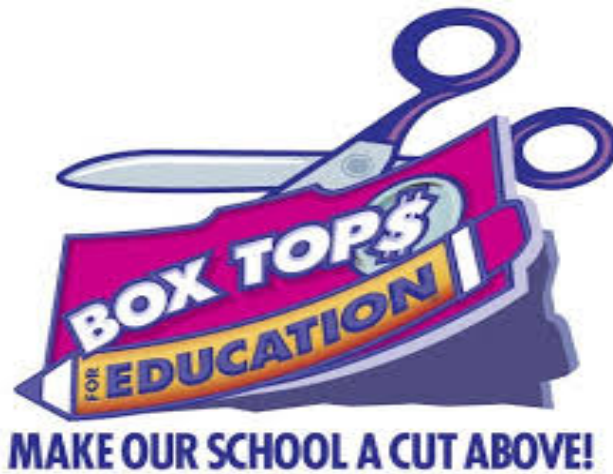
Your advertisement here...

Your advertisement here...

Your advertisement here...

Your advertisement here...

Your advertisement here...



Help Emerson-Williams by clipping Box Tops!

We all shop for groceries, sometimes two or three times a week - or more. Now turn those shopping trips into easy cash for our school, and encourage friends to do the same! Just look for the Box Tops logo on hundreds of products like Cheerios®, Hamburger Helper® and Kleenex®, in almost every aisle of the store. All you need to do is clip and send them to school with your child.

Each one is worth 10¢ for Emerson-Williams!

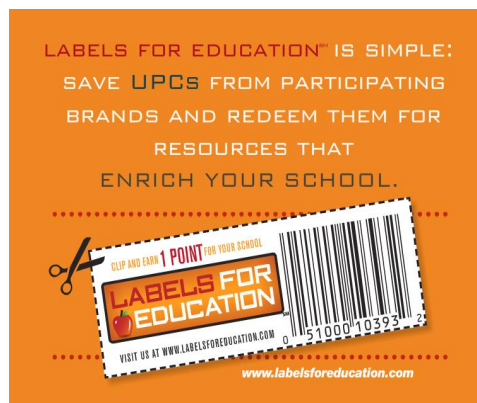
For more details about the Box Tops program, follow the link below.

<http://www.boxtops4education.com>





Clip Labels for Education from Campbell's, Pepperidge Farm, Pop Secret, People Magazine (purchased at newsstands), Emerald Nuts, Glad products, Post Cereals, Dannon Danimals, Dannoninos, and Bic products.



If you cannot find the logo, simply clip the UPC code.

Visit www.labelsforeducation.com for a list of participating products.