

Tiger Topics Newsletter, December 2016

Emerson-Williams Elementary School PTO

PTO Board: July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

2nd Year Co-President: Darka Jara, 5th Grade Parent

1st Year Co-President: Colleen Mattatall, 1st Grade Parent

Secretary: James Langdo, 1st Grade Parent

Treasurer: Peping Dee, 1st Grade Parent



Upcoming Events

December 26 – January 2

Holiday Recess – No School

January 13

Teacher & Staff Appreciation
"Sweets, Treats, & Eats" hosted
by the EW 3rd Grade Families

January 16

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – No
School

February 3

Mixed Bag Designs Fundraiser

February 17 – 21

Professional Development and
Winter Recess – No School

From the Desk of the EW PTO Co-Presidents

Dear Emerson Williams Community,

As the year comes to a close many of us think about what we are grateful for. One thing we are thankful for is this amazing school experience our children are experiencing- from the ridiculously joyful staff, to the beautiful community of children, and the supportive network of their families. We are so fortunate.

And one of the things that December bring is resolutions. Ah, those changes we hope to better our habits! We've heard a lot of people talk about wanting to get more involved in 2017. People want to lay claim on something. People want to be a part of something. We invite you to consider being part of our PTO. Did you know many companies allow you to volunteer for a non-profit during work hours? Some corporations match donations to a non-profit -a 501(c)(3) entity? Check with your Human Resources department to see if yours does. You can help out at our events on work-time, and in some cases, if you volunteer enough hours your company may donate a financial amount to your designated charity (EWPTO).

So many people worked so hard volunteering at our December events. The holiday store, the vendor night, the gingerbread decorating were all wonderful events hosted by PTO committees. We are so grateful for all of our volunteers and participating families.

We wish you and yours a very happy New Year.

Best Wishes,
Colleen Mattatall, 1yrpres@ewpto.com
Darka Jara, 2yrpres@ewpto.com
Co-Presidents, EW PTO

Emerson-Williams Elementary School

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Wethersfield, CT 06109

Main Office (860) 571-8360

Principal: Neela Thakur

Main Office: Mary Lacy and
Maria Intino

www.ewpto.com, Webmaster: Chrissy Pikos
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Emerson-Williams Elementary School PTO

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Editor: Leslie Williams

From the Desk of Ms. Neela Thakur, Principal

I am so very sorry that many of your families have been hit with the stomach bug this fall / winter. As a mom myself, I know how awful this can be. In my conversations with my colleagues across the district, it is very clear that the stomach bug has hit us all district-wide, not just at EW. I am grateful to all of you who have taken the time to reach out to me directly to express your concerns about the stomach bug. Both the week before Thanksgiving, as well as the week after Thanksgiving, I reached out to central office to share your concerns. As a result, our custodial staff has been focusing their cleaning more on bathrooms, the nurse's office, water fountains, and a more thorough wipe down of classrooms surfaces including table tops / desk tops and doorknobs. In addition, we have been using some Morning Meeting time with students to discuss good handwashing practices.

The viruses that cause gastroenteritis (or "the stomach bug") are spread very easily through close contact with infected people, such as by sharing food or utensils, and by touching contaminated surfaces and objects. The contagious period - the time during which a sick person can give the illness to others - can range from a few days before the onset of symptoms, to up to a week or more after illness, depending on which virus is causing the stomach bug. This is a major factor that makes it so difficult to prevent the spread of the virus.

Frequent good hand washing with soap and water and using hand sanitizer is the most effective way to help stop the spread of these viruses to others. Avoid touching the T-Zone (mucous membranes of the eyes, nose, and mouth). Touching your own face can introduce viruses into your body. The T-Zone is the only portal of entry for upper respiratory and GI illnesses.

Other ways to help stop the spread of the illness are to follow these important guidelines:

- A child with a temperature of 100 degrees or greater should not be in school.
- Students should be without a fever for 24 hours without the aid of fever reducing medications such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen before returning to school.
- If your child is vomiting or having diarrhea, they must be free of symptoms for 24 hours before returning to school. Often times, they may need an extra day at home until they are back to feeling themselves.

Thank you for doing your part to stop the spread of the stomach bug here at EW. It is greatly appreciated. Please know that our custodial staff is aware and concerned and has been doing their part to assist, since before Thanksgiving. Again, I truly appreciate everyone's communication and support. I certainly hope all of your families are healthy for the rest of this winter season.

www.ewpto.com, Webmaster: Chrissy Pikos
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Emerson-Williams Elementary School PTO



EW Tiger Roars – Thank you!

*A BIG EW Tiger Roar of Thanks
going out to:*

All the Room Parents in each grade level and the entire E-W Family Community who contributed to December's Holiday Breakfast/ Luncheon for the teachers/staff. There was a huge outpouring of food and support and the feedback of this appreciation was monumental! Thank you for supporting our school.

Leslie Williams and Colleen Mattatall for arranging two wonderful assemblies for our children – The Signature Project and John Steven Gurney during November.

Karen Dicenso and Beth Gilbert for co-chairing the Holiday Store event **and to all their committee members and parent volunteers** who helped make it a successful event!

All the student volunteers who worked as elves and gift wrappers at the Holiday Store.



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Reminder

Teacher Appreciation – Sweets, Treats, & Eats – January 13

The next teacher/staff appreciation event, "Sweets, Treats, & Eats," will be held on Friday, January 13, 2017. The Third Grade Room Parents and 3rd grade families will be hosting this event. To help with the event or to donate food, drinks, etc., please sign up at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090b4caba72ca3fe3-3rdgrade>.

Coming Soon...

The Book Quote Project

The EW Leadership Team is pioneering a new project- Coming SOON!! The Book Quote Project! Children can submit a favorite or meaningful or silly quote from a book they are reading. Once a week a favorite book quote will be chosen to be read during morning announcements, but all submissions will be displayed. Children of all ages can submit their book quotes to the Book Quote Mailbox (coming soon!). The EW Leadership Team is looking for volunteers to help create a beautiful exciting display for this project and collect and post the book quotes. If interested please reach out to Ms. McLaughlin at bmclaughlin@wethersfield.me

PTO Emails

Please add the EW PTO to your contacts list and keep in touch:

2nd Year Co-President – 2yrpres@ewpto.com

1st Year Co-President – 1yrpres@ewpto.com

Treasurer – treasurer@ewpto.com

Secretary – secretary@ewpto.com

Webmaster – webmaster@ewpto.com

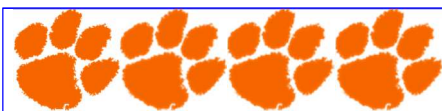
Tiger Topics Newsletter – tigertopics@ewpto.com

Do you have a PTO suggestion? – suggestionbox@ewpto.com

Box Tops For Education

Don't forget to keep clipping those Box Tops for Education during the Holiday Recess. Every Box Top earns \$0.10 for our school.

Did you know that there is a Box Tops For Education app for your smart phone? Download it today and start earning money for our school by purchasing qualified food items and submitting photos of your receipt right from your smart phone.



2017 EW PTO Meeting Schedule

7:00 p.m.

EW Upper Media Center

January 12

February 9

March 9

April 20

May 11

June 8

Shop & Support EW PTO

Amazon Smile

A simple and automatic way to support EW PTO every time you shop, at no cost to you. They have the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. Please consider choosing EW PTO and shop AmazonSmile.

Stop & Shop A+ School Rewards

A great fundraising program run through our local Stop & Shop! Use your registered Stop & Shop Card each time you shop at Stop & Shop, and you will earn CASH for our school.