

2011-2012 PTO  
MEETING  
SCHEDULE

December 8  
January 12  
February 9  
March 8  
April 12  
May 10  
June 14

All meetings take place  
at 7pm in the Upper  
Media Center.

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# Tiger Topics

## EMERSON-WILLIAMS

DECEMBER 2011

## From the Principal's Desk

Elizabeth T. Catarius

I have included some helpful information about reading. As you know, being able to decode and interpret text is paramount in your child's life. The article was written by Gary Petersen, one of the curriculum specialists in district. Should you have any questions in regard to the material presented, please contact your child's teacher or Gary Petersen at [gpetersen@wethersfield.k12.ct.us](mailto:gpetersen@wethersfield.k12.ct.us).

How long or much should my child be reading?

The simple answer is as much as possible. There is no limit if they love their "just right" books. We want your child to be reading as many books that they love, are curious about and most importantly that they can read independently. This means at their level. Assuming we have a rough level of their reading at this point, it comes down to reading volumes of books. Like any sport or hobby, the more you do something, the better you will get at it. This is why it is important to provide sustained period of times at home where your child can read quietly or to you. This can be divided up into smaller periods, but "eyes on text reading" is most important.

Although we don't expect you to figure out how many words per minute your child is reading, the pacing guide below should help you understand that a child should NOT be reading any normal sized book for weeks on end. Hatchet, a popular Gary Paulsen book has approximately 50,000 words and is a level R. At 100 words per minute a child can read that in 16 hours. At 200 words per minute, the child can read a book in 8 hours. As you can see, at either rate, this substantial book should not be lingering in the child hands long. Howliday Inn, a funny James Howe book, is approximately 30,000 words and is a level P. At 100 words per minute your child should be able to read this book in 5 hours.

What does this mean? Watching what your child reads and how long it is taking them to read can give you a window into if they are really reading or "fake" reading. It could be an indication of the difficulty of the book. If they are plowing through volumes of books, this is a great thing. If you find the books are too easy, a meaningful discussion around book choice becomes very important.

Below is a chart that guides us in words per minute. This information helps us be sure the children are reading with VOLUME, STAMINA and TIME-ON-TASK.

Grade 1 between 60 - 90 words per minute  
Grade 2 between 85- 120 words per minute  
Grade 3 between 115-140 words per minute  
Grade 4 between 140-170 words per minute  
Grade 5 between 170-195 words per minute  
Grade 6 between 195-220 words per minute

I would also like to thank all the staff and PTO members who made the vocal and instrumental concerts, and the Holiday Store/Vendor night such wonderful events. I know that the students will have cherished memories about these happenings at Emerson-Williams. On behalf of the Emerson-Williams staff, I would like to wish you all a peaceful and joyous holiday season.

# PTO Highlights

How is it December already? The time has really been flying by. As we begin the busy holiday season, we encourage you to take a little time to slow down and enjoy your family.

You may have noticed that more fundraiser opportunities have been coming home in the backpacks. In an effort to raise funds for our new playscape, we are offering several different types of fundraisers. That being said, please do not feel obligated to participate in every fundraiser that is offered. We appreciate your participation when you can. Another way to help raise funds is to share the fundraising brochures with friends, family and co-workers.

We would like to take a moment to thank the co-chairs of the Holiday Store and Vendor Night

Committees: Lauren Barbara, Amber Kiniry, Kathleen Peacock and Alicia Schenkel. This combined event was a mammoth undertaking that involved months of hard work and planning. Thanks also to their families for all the behind the scenes help.

Mark January 21 on your calendars now for the first ever Emerson-Williams night at the CT Whale game at the XL Center in Hartford. Enjoy an evening of hockey and show your E-W spirit!

Thanks again for all you do, and as always, feel free to let us know if you have any suggestions or feedback.

Regards,

Andrea Ginter, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Co-President  
Martin Malicki, 1<sup>st</sup> Year Co-President



## Holiday Store Recap



Wow! The holiday season is in full swing.... Decorations are up, and everyone seems to be getting in the spirit! Most importantly for E-W families, Holiday Store has come and gone. It was an amazing success this year!!! We want to thank EVERYONE for all your help and for all your patience. It is a very fun, tiring and extremely rewarding event. There are always some challenges, like long lines, but as a school community we pull through and make it happen. An event like this could never happen without an amazing dedicated committee, fantastic parent and teacher volunteers and support from the community. We also want to thank Shop Rite of East Hartford for supplying the shopping carts the kids used. We wish everyone a beautiful holiday season full of great times with their friends and family. We look forward to getting started on next year really soon!

Amber Kiniry & Lauren Barbara

## Mark Your Calendars!

Take a look at what is coming up:

Thursday, 12/8	Poinsettia Orders Due
Friday, 12/9	Mixed Bags and Gift Card Orders Due
Tuesday, 12/13	Poinsettia Pick-Up
Wednesday, 12/14	Report Cards Distributed
Monday, 12/19	Gift Card Pick-Up
Friday, 12/23	Spirit Day: Hat Day
Saturday, 1/21	Emerson-Williams Night at CT Whale Game
Friday, 1/27	Spirit Day: Twins Day
Saturday, 7/28	3rd Annual Golf Tournament



For a full listing of all upcoming events, please visit [www.ewpto.com](http://www.ewpto.com).

# Tiger Topics Health Tips

Linda Ciarcia, BSN, RN



GOT MILK!!

From the mid-1970s to the present, the consumption of milk by Americans has declined, and the consumption of sweetened beverages has increased. A recent study compared beverage patterns of 10,000 adults, teenagers and children. In all age groups, the largest portion of beverage calories came from sugar-sweetened drinks (*soft drinks, fruit drinks and pre-sweetened teas and even juices which contain natural sugars*). Nutritionists recommend drinking 24oz. of milk a day. On average, teen boys drank only 12 ounces of milk a day, while teen girls averaged less than 1 serving (7 ounces). Adult women (ages 19-49) consumed the least amount of milk - an average of 6 ounces a day, while they drank three times as many sweetened beverages - 18 ounces a day, or 10% of daily calories. This trend could be negatively affecting American's weight. The study found that preteen girls, teenage girls and adult women whose diets consisted of less milk and more sweetened drinks, had significantly greater Body Mass Indexes (BMI) when compared to those who drank more milk. Also Americans that drank more milk and fewer sweetened drinks had diets that were significantly higher in vital nutrients including calcium, magnesium, potassium and vitamin A. Sweetened beverages contributed to calories and added sugar intake, while providing fewer nutrients. Next time you're thirsty, take an extra minute and think about your drink. (thinkaboutyourdrink.com)

REMINDER to all sixth grade students:

All students must complete the necessary health assessment and required immunizations prior to **JUNE 1, 2012**. *Students will not be allowed to enter seventh grade in the fall if this information has not been submitted.*

If you need the blue State of Connecticut Department of Education Health Assessment form, I will be happy to send you one. Thanks to all those students who have turned in their physicals already!!

Next year the new immunization requirements are:

1. 2nd Varicella vaccine [chicken pox]
2. 2nd Measles, Mumps and Rubella [MMR]
3. Adolescent Tdap vaccine [Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis]
4. Meningitis Vaccine

## Gift Card Fundraiser Update



Not done with your holiday shopping? We are here to help! You can shop for gift cards from the convenience of your home and help out the PTO at the same time! With over 50 options in various denominations to choose from, you are sure to find something perfect for everyone. You can also stock up on gift cards for stores that you shop at frequently - the PTO receives a percentage of each gift card sold, and it doesn't cost you any more. The fillable order form is available online at [www.ewpto.com](http://www.ewpto.com).

Orders are due on Friday, December 9 and must be paid in advance - checks should be made payable to EWPTO. Gift cards can be picked up on Monday, December 19 from 5-7pm. If you are not available during the pick-up time, contact Andrea Ginter to make alternate arrangements.

As always, thank you so much for participating in our fundraisers. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Andrea Ginter at 860-251-9125 or at [andrea.ginter@gmail.com](mailto:andrea.ginter@gmail.com).



**Mixed Bag Dates:** *Cash and Carry* – Wednesday, November 30, 2011 (Profit 50%)  
*Online Fundraiser* – Monday, Nov. 21 – Friday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> (Profit 40%)

**Fundraiser ID: 76123**

EW PTO would like to present to you this opportunity to help both the environment and our PTO. A variety of recyclable bags will be available to purchase and take home on Tuesday, Nov. 30 during Vendor Night. These bags are available in an array of vibrant colors and convenient sizes, perfect to meet all your needs.

If you can't make it to Vendor Night, or you just can't wait to place an order, please visit [www.mixedbagdesigns.com](http://www.mixedbagdesigns.com) and click on "Online Store". At checkout, when you review and submit your order, you will be asked for your **Fundraiser ID (76123)**, enter it to give credit to our fundraiser. Orders will be sent to the address you provide and will arrive in time for Dec. 25 if placed by Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>.

EW PTO will receive 50% profit on all bags purchased at Vendor Night and 40% profit when ordered online. Please feel free to pass along this information, and our **Fundraiser ID (76123)** to all your friends, family and co-workers. Our online fundraiser will begin on Monday, November 21<sup>st</sup> and end on Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. As always, the EW PTO thanks you for your continued support.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Paula Heinzmann at 860-571-8939 or [PaulaPTO@yahoo.com](mailto:PaulaPTO@yahoo.com)  
Janet Vasel at 860-721-7090 or [ajavasel@cox.net](mailto:ajavasel@cox.net)

*Thank you!*



# EW BRICKWALK FUNDRAISER

COMING SOON!

This fundraiser will be solely for the  
PLAYSCAPE and WALKWAY project.  
If you have questions, please contact  
Michele Lavoie 860-944-6765.

# Norfolk Admirals vs CT Whale @7:00 p.m. January 21st 2012



First 3,000 Fans Will  
Receive A **Wade Redden**  
Bobble Head

## EMERSON-WILLIAMS NIGHT WITH THE WHALE



**Ice Resurfer  
Ride Raffle!**

**Stripes** &  
*On Ice*



Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (D) \_\_\_\_\_ (N) \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

GAME	QUANTITY	X	PRICE	=	TOTAL
1/21/12 vs. Norfolk Admirals			<b>\$12.00*</b>		
TOTAL AMOUNT					

\*\$4.00 go back to Emerson-Williams

**Please Contact:**  
 Lauren Barbara  
 Phone: (860) 214-6449  
 Email: Snl0617@att.net

This message may be forwarded or copied, but may not be edited or altered in any way without the written consent of Whalers Sports & Entertainment

### METHOD OF PAYMENT

- ( Check must be received 10 days prior to event )  
 Please make checks payable to Emerson-Williams PTO.
- Cash

**\*Vouchers may be exchanged for any regular season game.**

Orders must be received 2 days prior to event date. Discounts not available through TicketMaster.  
 Group prices only available through the Emerson-Williams School.

## Community Outreach



Please hold on to your stuffed animals! We will collect them at the beginning of 2012 for our Lovable, Huggable Collection. Thank You!

## Labels for Education



Don't forget to start saving Labels for Education! These labels can be found on lots of participating products, from Campbell's to Pepperidge Farm to Prego and more! Visit [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com) for a complete list of participating products.

### 3RD ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, JULY 28, 2012

1:00PM SHOTGUN START

\$125 PER GOLFER



EMERSON-WILLIAMS

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT  
THE EMERSON-WILLIAMS  
PLAYSCAPE FUND

visit [ewpto.com](http://ewpto.com) for more information

## WANTED!

Would you like to volunteer but never seem to be available when you are needed? We have the solution for you! We are looking for someone to take responsibility for the monthly editions of Tiger Topics. This is a project that can be done from your home, whenever it is most convenient for you. If you are interested or would like more information, contact Andrea Ginter at [andrea.ginter@gmail.com](mailto:andrea.ginter@gmail.com). Thanks!

## Thanks to Our Golf Tourney Sponsors!

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Cedar Mountain Stone & Mulch  
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Future Fitness  
<http://www.aboutfuturefitness.com/>

Creative Recreation  
<http://creativerec.com/>

The Jones Group  
<http://www.jonesgroupinc.com/>

People's United Bank  
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Preyco Manufacturing  
<http://www.preyco.com/>

Rosenberg Orthodontics  
<http://www.rosenbergortho.com/>

Schneider Financial Group  
<http://www.sfgtaxes.com/>

TradeWind Irrigation  
<http://www.tradewindirrigation.com/>



Children's Department  
DECEMBER 2011

<b>Collection on Display</b>	<i>LEGO Star Wars</i> by Josh Gstell
<b>NOW SHOWING!</b> (on flat screen located @ Children's information desk)	<i>Slideshow of "Look Who We Caught Reading @ the Children's Department"</i>
<b>Themed book displays:</b> <b>include booklists, coloring or activity sheets</b>	<p><i>Holiday Gift-Giving Ideas:</i> Books make great gifts! Find fantastic gift ideas for children – from babies to teens.</p> <p><i>December Holidays:</i> Celebrate the holidays with great reads!</p> <p><i>Read Alongs:</i> Picturebook with audio CD kits to help your child read along while listening to the story.</p> <p><i>Super Heroes:</i> Check out books about Batman, Spider-man, and many more.</p> <p><i>Princess Tales:</i> Enchanting tales about princesses and royalty!</p>
<b>Word of the Month</b>	<p><b>Nosocomial</b></p> <p>Define the word and where it originated. All work must be completed in the library using library materials - <b>no computers</b>. If your answer is correct you will be entered in a drawing to win a free large, plain, pizza from <i>Village Pizza</i>.</p>
<b>DECEMBER Events</b>	
<b>Thursday</b> December 1, 8, 15, & 20, 2011	<p><i>1:30pm-2:30pm: "Giocando con L'Italiano: Natale"</i></p> <p>Playing with Italian; a 4 week mini program. Learn Italian Christmas traditions, songs, &amp; poems through music, games, stories &amp; play.</p> <p><i>Registration is required</i></p>
<b>Tuesday</b> December 13, 2011	<p><i>6:30pm: PIZZA &amp; PAGES: 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Graders</i></p> <p>December Title: <i>Key to Rondo</i> by Emily Rodda</p> <p>Nutmeg Award Book Discussion Series with a light supper</p> <p><i>Registration is required</i></p>
<b>Tuesday</b> December 27, 2011	<p><i>10:30am: CLIFFORD @ THE LIBRARY!: for all ages</i></p> <p>Meet &amp; greet one of your favorite book characters. Enjoy stories, games and lots more!</p> <p><i>Registration is required</i></p> <p><i>7:00pm: CHAT &amp; CHEW: for 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders</i></p> <p>Chat about great reads, share your favorites, and go online to check out what's new with your favorite authors while enjoying yummy treats!</p> <p><i>Registration is required</i></p>



<b>Wednesday</b> December 28, 2011	10:30am: <i>"A RING IN THE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION with RECESS ROCKS"</i> : for ages 3 & up. Celebrate 2012 with music & movement brought to you by "Recess Rocks" featured at the October SteveSongs concert. <i>Registration is required</i>
<b>Thursday</b> December 29, 2011	10:30am: <i>GERONIMO STILTON @ THE LIBRARY!</i> : for all ages Meet & greet one of your favorite book characters. Enjoy stories, games and lots more! <i>Registration is required</i>  6:30pm: <i>Wii FAMILY NIGHT</i> : For all ages but only those children 5 years old & up compete Parents compete against their children in a variety of interactive Wii games. <i>Registration is required</i>

### Year-Round Events

<b>Wednesday</b> Year-round	10am -12 noon: <i>DROP-IN PLAYTIME</i> + 11:00am: <i>SHORT &amp; SWEET STORYTIME</i> : all ages Drop-in family fun with stories and songs. <i>All are welcome!</i>
<b>Friday</b> Year-round	10am -12 noon: <i>DROP-IN PLAYTIME</i> + 11:00am: <i>SHORT &amp; SWEET STORYTIME</i> : all ages Drop-in family fun with stories and songs. <i>All are welcome!</i>
<b>Saturday</b> Year-round	10:30am: <i>SATURDAY STORIES</i> : all ages Drop-in fun with books, songs and movement for the whole family! <i>All are welcome!</i>

### Coming Attractions

<b>January 2012</b>	<i>WINTER Literacy Classes</i>
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55 Town Line Rd.  
Wethersfield, CT  
(860) 529-9555

Canton

Newington

West Hartford

*We Will Make You SMILE!*

[www.RosenbergOrtho.com](http://www.RosenbergOrtho.com)