

Tiger Topics Newsletter, February 2017



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

From the Desk of the EW PTO Co-Presidents

Dear Emerson-Williams Families,

We would like to start off by thanking all of our volunteers for all that they do. Thank you for the bottom of our hearts! We, of course, have many upcoming fundraisers and events to look forward to as Winter winds down and we hope for an early Spring... Movie Night, Apparel Sale, Mixed Bag Designs, the Luau Dance, and the Talent Show just to name a few.

At our February PTO meeting, we were honored to have guest speakers, Bobbie Granato and Elaine Paradise, from the Board of Education (BOE) discussing the BOE budget. It would be great if parents could attend the upcoming BOE meetings or Wethersfield Town Council meetings to support the acceptance of the BOE's budget as is. The next BOE meeting is 7 p.m. on February 28 at the Town Hall. Town Council meetings are typically held the first and third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers in the Town Hall, 505 Silas Deane Highway.

We are very excited to have committee members for Strawberry Festival, Talent Show, and TV Turn Off Week! Let's all keep up the great work we are doing for our children, our school, and the Emerson-Williams teachers and staff.

Respectfully Yours,

Colleen Mattatall, 1yrpres@ewpto.com

Darka Jara, 2yrpres@ewpto.com

Co-Presidents, EW PTO

Upcoming Events

February 24

Movie Night – 6:30 p.m. at Webb Elementary School Auditorium (Snow Date: March 3)

Now – March 1

Winter Apparel Sale – This is not a fundraiser!

February 24 – March 10

Mixed Bag Designs Fundraiser

March 5

Wolfpack Game fundraiser to support the E-W Music Dept.

March 9

PTO Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Upper Media Center at E-W

March 15

Talent Show Auditions 6 p.m. at Emerson-Williams

March 16

Family Sing A Long Night - 6 p.m. at E-W hosted by the E-W Music Dept.

March 18

Luau Dance – 4 – 7 p.m. in the Emerson-Williams Gymnasium

March 24

Mismatch Spirit Day-Wear clothes and crazy socks that don't match.

Emerson-Williams Elementary School

461 Wells Road
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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From the Principal's Desk

By Ms. Neela Thakur

Superintendent of Schools Michael Emmett will be proposing a school system budget for 2017 - 2018 that will be an increase of 2.94% over this current school year's budget. That small increase accounts for salary increases and employee benefits only. No new initiatives. If this budget gets cut at all by our Town Council, it will likely be difficult to maintain all current positions. The first important date in this budget process was when Mr. Emmett presented his budget to the BOE on February 14 at the BOE Meeting. If you are able to come and speak out to support his incredibly trim budget proposal at the next meeting on February 28, that would be awesome! Please consider attending the BOE Meeting to help support a budget that will help support your loves' education here in Wethersfield. Thank you!

School Mission

At Emerson-Williams Elementary School, we strongly believe in the joy of learning. Ours is a caring, compassionate environment that respects and supports the dignity of the whole child. We work hand-in-hand with families and the community to develop lifelong learners and contributing members of our changing society.

Keep In Touch with EWPTO!

We want to stay in touch with you. Please be sure to Like AND Follow us on Facebook at Emerson-Williams Elementary PTO.

Also, please provide your email address to receive EW PTO emails by going to www.ewpto.com and on the right, click on



2017 EWPTO Meeting Schedule

7:00 p.m. E-W Upper Media Center on the following Thursdays:

March 9
April 20
May 11
June 8



EW Tiger Roars – Thank you!

A BIG EW Tiger Roar of Thanks going out to:

All of the E-W teachers and staff that donated their time to help create such a fun and exciting E-W STEM night! All the kids loved the various activities and everyone learned so many new things! Great job!

All the members of the EW PTO Board: Darka Jara, Colleen Mattatall, Peping Dee, and James Langdo who organize the February Teacher/Staff Appreciation event. They showed the teachers and staff just how much they are loved with tons of candy!

Bobbie Granato and Elaine Paradise from the Board of Education for attending the February PTO Meeting to discuss their budget and how important it is to support it at the BOE and Town Council meetings.

Diana Iannucci and Beth Gilbert for co-chairing the Bingo Night Family Fun event! We hope you all had a wonderful time! Congratulations to our Bingo Winners, enjoy our prizes!



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

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Tiger Topics Health Tips

By Linda Ciarcia, BSN, RN



Head Lice Information

Head lice are small parasitic insects that live mainly on the scalp and neck hairs of **people**, not pets or other animals. The egg of the louse is called a nit. Nits are laid by the adult female and are cemented to the base of the hair nearest the scalp, usually less than ¼ of an inch from the scalp. The eggs hatch and release baby lice. They are only the size of a pinhead. They mature in approximately one week. The adults grow to the size of a sesame seed. Adults can live up to 30 days but must feed on the blood of humans to survive. Once off the head they die within 24-48 hours.

Just the Facts

1. Lice are not dangerous; they don't spread disease and are not a sign of uncleanliness.
2. Lice do not fly or jump; the only way they can get from one person to the other is **DIRECT** head to head contact.
3. The sharing of clothing, bedding, combs/brushes and hats/hair accessories may spread them.
4. Schools are not the most common place where head lice are spread. Sleep-overs among friends and relatives are thought to be a common way they are passed from home to home.
5. School-wide head checks are not recommended. The most effective screening occurs when parents check their own children and treat as described below.
6. Mass head checks are not done routinely regarding cases at school unless there are two or more active cases in a classroom.
7. The "gold" standard if infestation is the direct visualization of live bugs. Contact your pediatrician for Lice treatment options.
8. If only nits/ eggs are present, removing them with a special small toothed comb, is time consuming, but the **most** effective way to get rid of them. DO THIS EVERY DAY FOR SEVERAL WEEKS UNTIL NO LONGER THERE.
9. **NEVER TREAT ANYONE** "just in case". Head lice products can be pesticides, which are toxic if overused and can be absorbed through the skin. If you do need to use them, **FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS EXACTLY**.
10. Shaving or cutting the hair is not necessary.
11. According to the National Assoc. of School Nurses, children found with live lice should be referred to parents for treatment. One of the biggest challenges is getting parents to communicate the problem to school and to other parents when they find head lice. This may prevent the passing back and forth of this problem.

As school nurses, we are your supportive advocate who can advise you about treatments and help you with checking and rechecking as you work to remove nits and lice from your child's head. We do not judge and we handle lice cases in a *confidential* manner. Please just ask. Visit these links for valuable information and videos: www.headliceinfo.com and www.cdc.gov/lice



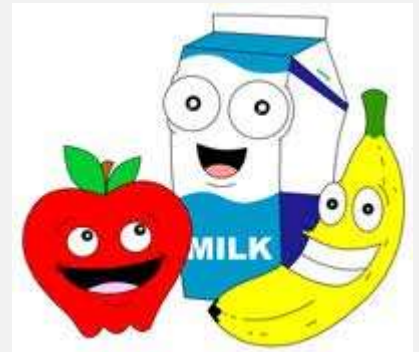
A Tiger's Breakfast

Did you know... Breakfast is available daily in the Emerson-Williams School cafeteria?

Students who eat breakfast have better concentration, are more alert and miss fewer days of school. Start your child's day in a healthy way!

What's on the menu? Visit Wethersfield.nutrislice.com to view the E-W Breakfast menu!

Do you have a healthy nut-free breakfast item or meal that your Tiger loves? Please share it with the E-W Community! Email it to tigertopics@ewpto.com for publication in our next newsletter.



BREAKFAST

Tiger Topics – Monthly Spotlight Article

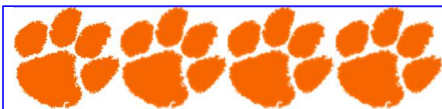
Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D. A. R. E.) Graduation

By Mrs. Woods and all of her Fifth Grade Students

On Wednesday, January 18, we had a special night. All of the fifth graders celebrated graduating from D.A.R.E. Officer Bob Arduini from the Wethersfield Police Department came to Emerson once a week and was our D.A.R.E. teacher. We learned about peer pressure, ways to handle stress, how to stand up to and report bullying, and the ways drugs, alcohol and cigarettes are harmful to our bodies.

Officer Bob also taught us to use the Dare Decision Making Model to solve problems. We also call this the DDMM for short. When you use it to solve problems, think of the word DARE and that will remind you of the steps- Define the problem, Assess your choices, Respond, and then Evaluate your choice. Was it a good one?

We had an essay contest with Officer Bob to show what we had learned in DARE. The winner from each class got to read their essay at our graduation. Sindy Hima won from Ms. Charbonneau's class, Seth Cholewa won from Miss Lucas' class and Will McKenna won from Mrs. Woods' class. We had an awesome night!



Shop & Support EW & Our PTO



Don't forget to keep clipping those Box Tops for Education. Every Box Top earns \$0.10 for our PTO. 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. **Our next Box Tops collection is coming soon this Spring!**

amazonsmile

You shop. Amazon gives.

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.

Reminders

Teacher and Staff Appreciation Event – March 3 hosted by the Fourth Grade

The next teacher/staff appreciation event will be held on Friday, March 3, 2017. The Fourth Grade Room Parents and Fourth Grade families will be hosting this event with a St. Patrick's Day theme. To help with the event or to donate food, drinks, etc., please contact your Fourth Grade Room Parents to sign up!

Grades K, 1, and 2 Families!!!

The library reading volunteer schedule has been updated for the remainder of the school year. The schedule is on the EW PTO website at: <http://ewpto.com/mediacenter.html>. Please feel free to go in and sign-up today! If you are unable to access the schedule online, please send an email to Amy Burlingame at amy.burlingame@gmail.com or a hard copy note Attn: Amy Burlingame - Media Center Committee - EWPTO.

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

PTO Board – ptoboard@ewpto.com

Webmaster – webmaster@ewpto.com

Tiger Topics Newsletter – figertopics@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.

Volunteers Needed

The Movie Night Committee is looking for volunteers to help with concessions and tickets at Webb Elementary School Auditorium starting at 6:00 p.m. on February 24. Please email Leslie Williams at movie.night@ewpto.com to volunteer. Thanks for your support!

The Strawberry Festival Co-Chairs are planning this year's event. If you would like to chair a sub-committee (cake walk, volunteer recruitment, food, raffle, donations, sponsorships, miscellaneous) please email strawberry.fest@ewpto.com. This annual family fun event takes a village to organize it and we can't do it without you!

The Future Projects Committee - If anyone is interested in researching a major project for our school and our children, please contact PTO Board at ptoboard@ewpto.com.

Save The Dates!

Sponsored by E-W Music Department:

March 16 – It's almost time for the 2nd annual **FAMILY SING A LONG NIGHT!** Mark your calendars for Thursday, March 16, 2017 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the E-W gym. It's FREE!! Be sure to wear your PJs, bring your blanket and pillow [or maybe a sleeping bag] and don't forget your flash light. Of course you'll want to bring your best singing voice so we can all enjoy some of our favorite songs together. Hope to see you there!

June 6 – **E-W Singers** from grades 5 and 6 will sing the Star Spangled Banner on Tuesday, June 6, 2017 for the New Britain Bees. Game time is 6:35 p.m. Ticket information will be coming soon.

Sponsored by EWPTO:

May 1 – 7 – TV Turn Off Week, mark your calendars for some fun and exciting events!

May 3 – Talent Show. If you would like to help Christina Carreiro organize this awesome event, please contact her at talentshow@ewpto.com. Auditions are scheduled on March 15, 2017.



SAVE THE DATE

COME AND JOIN US FOR A FUN FILLED EVENING FOR OUR 2ND ANNUAL BRING SOMEONE SPECIAL DANCE



DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 18TH, 2017 **TIME: 4:00-7:00PM**
PLACE: EMERSON WILLIAMS SCHOOL
DRESS ATTIRE: DRESS IN YOUR BEST LUAU ATTIRE

ENJOY DANCING TO MUSIC, ENTERTAINMENT, A TAKE HOME PICTURE FROM THE PHOTO BOOTH, AND REFRESHMENTS ALL INCLUDED WITH THE PRICE OF ADMISSION.

TICKETS WILL BE ON SALE MARCH 1-10TH
PRE-SALE TICKETS WILL BE \$7.50 EACH

CHILDREN ARE REQUIRED TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT AS THEIR GUEST
TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR FOR \$10 EACH THE NIGHT OF THE EVENT.
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT JANET CARBO AT JANETCARBO@YAHOO.COM OR (860)970-4490

*VOLUNTEER SIGNUPS WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON ON THE EWPTO WEBSITE

ATTENTION

Emerson Williams

Stars!

The E-W PTO Presents
Emerson Williams Shining Stars
Talent Showcase

Date of the show will be
Wednesday, May 3, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Auditions will be held on Wednesday March 15th at 6:00

Mandatory Rehearsals will be hosted on April 14th and April 28th

If you would like to help organize this event or participate as a judge or MC,
please contact Christina Carreiro at talentshow@ewpto.com

Showcase Rules

All acts must adhere to a 5-minute maximum time limit. No more than 1 act per student.

Music and dances must be appropriate for school age audiences and acts

All music, costumes, lyrics and acts must be approved during auditions on March 15, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Students participating in the talent show must attend dress rehearsals on dates: April 14th & 28th at 6:00 p.m.

Students accept full responsibility for their behavior and can be asked to leave and not allowed to participate if their behavior is not within school guidelines.

Sponsored by EWPTO

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT



All Children
MUST be
accompanied
by an ADULT!

What do your
pets do when
you leave for
school or
work?

Concession
Tickets include
Popcorn and a
drink!

Questions? Email:
movie.night@ewpto.com



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24

6:30 PM

SAMUEL B. WEBB ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

51 WILLOW ST, WETHERSFIELD

FREE FAMILY EVENT

A Concession Ticket is needed to enter the event!