

**2011-2012 PTO  
MEETING  
SCHEDULE**

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

JANUARY 2012

## From the Principal's Desk

Elizabeth T. Catarius

The district has developed a draft proposal of a new progress report for grades Kindergarten through grade 6. It is anticipated that with Board of Education approval this new Progress Report will be used starting in the fall of 2012.

This is not a revision but an entirely new progress report based on state and national standards. Many communities throughout Connecticut and the nation are moving towards this type of reporting. A standards based grading system measures students' proficiency on clearly delineated curriculum expectations. A committee of teachers and administrators has been working for a year and a half researching and developing this proposed progress report. A representative parent group viewed it last week and offered their suggestions.

There will be an overview of this proposed Progress Report at the February, 14th PTO meeting. Parent feedback will be welcomed after the presentation, and I would urge you to attend, as you will want to know more about how we are proposing to assess students in the near future. I hope you will be pleased with the results of this new grading concept, as it will more clearly define what students have learned and are able to do. Standards based grading and reporting has also been defined as learning focused grading (Brookhart, 2011).

There are noteworthy events that have occurred at Emerson-Williams School. The sixth grade Science Fair was held on Friday, January 6th. Families and students from the other grades visited. The projects were exceptional, and much new learning occurred, as the sixth graders were very skilled at imparting the conclusions they reached in regard to their hypotheses.

We held our annual Geography Bee this week. The following students were contestants from their grade in the Geography Bee: sixth graders Amanda Gilbert, Chelsea Pinchera, Anthony Schnur, Jonathan Jensen; fifth graders Alice Balluku, Katie Ginter, Bryanna Scalora; fourth graders Alex Amado, Daron Goslicki, Clarissa Nock. Congratulations to Chelsea Pinchera, winner of our school Geography Bee, as well as to runner-up Alice Balluku. Thank you also to Mr. Bubser and Ms. Emmanuel for coordinating the Geography Bee.

## Save the Date - Pasta Dinner

The Emerson-Williams 6th grade will be hosting a pasta dinner on Friday, January 27 from 5:30 to 7:30pm. Come enjoy a delicious pasta dinner with meatballs, tossed salad, bread, beverages and homemade desserts. The children along with their families look forward to this very special social gathering every year. What a great way to catch up with old friends and make new ones as well. The cost is \$8 per adult and \$5 per child, up to a \$20 family max (immediate family only).

They are looking for donations to make themed gift baskets to be raffled at the pasta dinner. Suggested ideas are a movie night basket, an ice cream basket and an Italian dinner basket. If you would like to donate items for these specific baskets or would like to create your own basket to donate to the raffle, please contact Isabel Tenney at 257-1059 or itenney@att.net or Marianne Cronkhite at 571-8420 or kronk65@hotmail.com. See you there!



# PTO Highlights

Happy New Year! We hope that everyone had a restful holiday break and are charged up for the second half of the year. There are a lot of activities going on in the next couple of months both in school and in the community.

The Sixth Grade Committee is having a Pasta Dinner coming up soon, so watch for the details to come. Emerson-Williams night at the CT Whale is on January 21st. The WSPC is hosting a showing of the "Race to Nowhere" on January 26th at the SDMS from 7-9:30. There will be a panel discussion following the movie. The public hearing for the High School referendum is at 7:00 on January 17th. Everyone is encouraged to attend and voice their opinion on the renovation. If you are unfamiliar with what the proposed project entails, there are

informational posters in the Emerson-Williams entryway.

We also have fundraisers like Butter Braids and grocery store gift cards coming up in the next couple of months. Thank you to all of you who participate in the different fundraisers that we have during the school year. It is because of you, that the PTO is able to fund so many activities for the kids.

Let's all hope for a continued warmer than usual winter so we don't miss any more school days!

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

## Mark Your Calendars!

*Take a look at what is coming up this month:*

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Tuesday, 1/10  | Board of Education Meeting                  |
| Thursday, 1/12 | PTO Meeting                                 |
| Tuesday, 1/17  | Public Hearing on WHS Renovation Referendum |
| Saturday, 1/21 | Emerson-Williams Night at CT Whale Game     |
| Tuesday, 1/24  | Board of Education Meeting                  |
| Thursday, 1/26 | WSPC Presentation of Race to Nowhere        |
| Friday, 1/27   | Spirit Day: Twins Day<br>Pasta Dinner       |



*Later this year:*

- |                 |                                     |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Friday, 3/2     | Wethersfield Spelling Bee           |
| Friday, 3/30    | Talent Show                         |
| Wednesday, 4/11 | Elementary Schools Festival Concert |
| Monday, 5/14    | Spring Instrumental Concert         |
| Thursday, 6/7   | Art Show                            |
| 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



Dear parents and students,

**REMINDER to all sixth grade students:** For those who received recent letters from me regarding physical forms, please get them in as soon as you can. I know some students have not had their physicals yet, because of insurance and birthdays, but as soon as you do please get them in to me. To date I have only received 14 out of 54 6th grade physical forms. All students must complete the necessary health assessment and required immunizations prior to JUNE 1, 2012. Any questions please don't hesitate to call me.

## FIVE-TWO-ONE-ALMOST NONE

5-2-1-Almost None is one way to promote a healthier lifestyle for children and their families. It is as simple as following these suggestions and tips for healthier eating and physical activity.

**5 FRUITS AND VEGETABLES** - 5 stands for five or more servings of fruits and vegetables each day. Fruits and vegetables are packed with disease-fighting nutrients and give you energy, naturally.

- Serve at least one fruit or vegetable at every meal and snack.
- Dip veggies in low fat dressing. Tuck them in whole wheat pitas. Toss some on your pizza.
- Try and Try again. It may take several tests (10 or more) before they begin to enjoy.

**2 HOURS OF SCREEN TIME**- 2 stands for no more than two hours per day in front of a screen (TV, video games and recreational computer time). A number of studies show a correlation between watching television and obesity.

- Be a role model - limit your screen time. Play or take a walk with your kids.

- Keep TV in a central location and out of your child's bedroom.
- Turn off the TV during dinner and talk about your day

**1 HOUR OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY** - 1 means at least one hour of physical activity per day. Physical activity, especially when it gets the heart pumping faster, is vital to maintaining a healthy weight and overall good health.

Kids who are raised in active families tend to stay active as adults.

- Plan one physical activity for the family each weekend. Let each child take turns choosing the activity.
- Walking, bicycling, dancing and raking leaves can all get your heart pumping.
- 10 minutes here, 10 minutes there and before you know it, you've been moving your body for an hour.

**ALMOST NONE** refers to almost no sugary beverages - no more than two servings per week of soft drinks, sport drinks, and fruit drinks that are not 100% fruit juice. Over the last few decades, soda consumption has doubled for girls and tripled for boys.

Choose water. Add a lemon or lime wedge or a splash of juice for flavor.

Drink water, milk and juice yourself. Your children will learn by watching you.

Avoid bringing sodas and sports drinks home. If it's there the kids will drink it.

Adapted from [www.GrowUpHealthy.org](http://www.GrowUpHealthy.org)

## Artist Recognition

Congratulations to Adam Dessin and Justin Nardella, both in grade 1. Their art work was chosen to represent Emerson-Williams School in the Wethersfield Chamber of Commerce/ Wethersfield Public School Youth Art Appreciation Program. Adam's artwork will be displayed at Burger King and Justin's artwork will be displayed at Capitol Region Federal Credit Union.



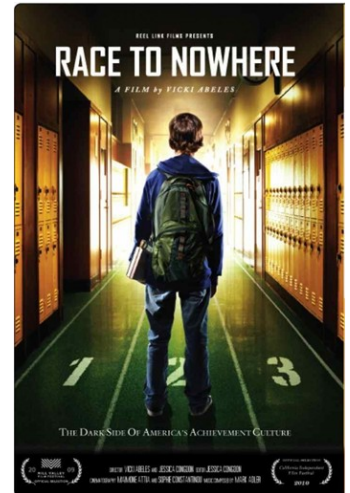
At long last, we have a facebook page for the PTO! Like us on facebook ([www.facebook.com/ewpto](http://www.facebook.com/ewpto)) to receive updates and reminders on your facebook feed. Your personal information/profile is not visible to other people. And while you are there, check out the Wethersfield Public Schools facebook page—there is a link from our page.

# Special WSPC Program

The WSPC is sponsoring a showing of the Award Winning Film that challenges educators, and policy makers to challenge current assumptions on how to best prepare our youth to become healthy, bright, contributing, and leading citizens. The showing will take place on January 26, 2012 at 7 pm at the Silas Deane Middle School. *The film will be followed by a community discussion with a panel of Educational Leaders from Wethersfield.* This is a free showing of the film, but **preregistration is required.** Registration is quick and easy! Please visit: <http://rtnsilasdeanems-eivtefrnd.eventbrite.com/>

#### About the Film:

Featuring the heartbreaking stories of young people across the country who have been pushed to the brink, educators who are burned out and worried that students aren't developing the skills they need, and parents who are trying to do what's best for their kids, *Race to Nowhere* points to the silent epidemic in our schools: cheating has become commonplace, students have become disengaged, stress-related illness, depression and burnout are rampant, and young people arrive at college and the workplace unprepared and uninspired. *Race to Nowhere* is a call to mobilize families, educators, and policy makers to challenge current assumptions on how to best prepare the youth of America to become healthy, bright, contributing and leading citizens.



## The Talent Show is Coming!

Mark your calendars NOW! The 6th Annual Emerson-Williams Talent Show will be held on Friday night, March 30 at the Wethersfield High School. Yes, it's Final Four weekend, but there are no games that night.

What types of acts belong in the show? Talents of all kinds will be considered—singing, dancing, poetry reading, playing instruments, comedy acts, juggling. Simply put, anything with a WOW factor.

Students are invited to showcase their acts the week of January 30 - February 3 (exact date/time TBD). Any students interested in performing in the talent show should be prepared to demonstrate up to a minute of the act. For the show, each act must be 3 minutes or less in length. The dress rehearsal for the show will be on Thursday, March 29. Stay tuned for more details!



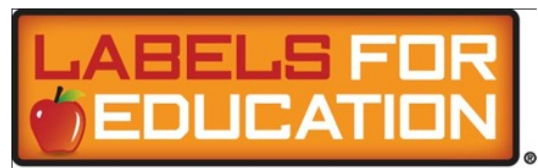
If you are a Full-Time or Part-Time Aetna Employee you can apply for a grant to Emerson-Williams for 20 hours or more of volunteer work. This includes hours that you've volunteered for any PTO activities (including attending PTO meetings).

The Aetna Foundation's Volunteer Grants are designed to encourage Aetna employees and retirees to give back to their communities through donations of their time.

The Aetna Foundation will make a grant of up to \$300 to an eligible nonprofit organization for the first 20 hours that an employee or retiree volunteers for that organization in a calendar year.

The Volunteer Grants program is available to full- and part-time regular Aetna employees and retirees only.

To apply for the grant go to [www.cybergrants.com/aetna/aero](http://www.cybergrants.com/aetna/aero) and log in with your Aetna ID and Password. Click Volunteer Grants then choose Emerson-Williams as the organization you want.



Don't forget to keep 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.

For juice products, please save the caps and for other products look for the bar code or "Labels for Education" logo inside a rectangle (see the sample below).



# 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 Resurfacer  
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.

## Stuffed Animal Collection



Now through January 13, we are collecting unwanted and gently used stuffed animals to donate to Lovable Huggables, a two-woman organization that collects and refurbishes stuffed animals. The animals are distributed to local organizations, including daycare centers, homeless shelters, churches, schools, police departments and homeless shelters. For transportation purposes, we can only accept stuffed animals up to 12" long. Thank You!

### 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

## Box Tops Update

What's better than free money? That's exactly what our school gets when you clip Box Tops for Education from participating products. Please check out the Box Tops website to learn about all the ways to help our school through the Box Tops program. We all know that saving those little \$.10 cent coupons on the packages of our favorite products really adds up, but did you know there are other ways too! Lots of your favorite stores have online bonus points if you shop online through the Box Tops site. The site is [www.bxotops4education.com](http://www.bxotops4education.com). Please take a look, register as an Emerson-Williams family and help us to reach our fundraising goals without spending any extra money. Thanks!



## Thanks to Our 2011 Golf Tourney Sponsors!

Cesar's Foreign & Domestic Car Repair

<http://www.cesarsforeigncar.com/>

Torello Brothers Landscaping

<http://www.torellobrothers.com/index.html>

Sterling Jeweler's

<http://www.shopsterlingjewelers.com/>

Cedar Mountain Stone & Mulch

<http://cedarmountainstoneandmulch.com/>

Future Fitness

<http://www.aboutfuturefitness.com/>

Creative Recreation

<http://creativerec.com/>

John J. Conroy, D.M.D, M.S., P.C.

<http://conroyortho.com/>

The Jones Group

<http://www.jonesgroupinc.com/>

People's United Bank

<https://www.peoples.com/portal/site/peoples/>

Preyco Manufacturing

<http://www.preyco.com/>

Rosenberg Orthodontics

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

Schneider Financial Group

<http://www.sfgtaxes.com/>


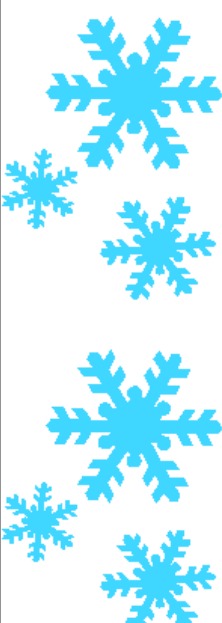

TradeWind Irrigation

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



**Winter 2012 @  
WETHERSFIELD LIBRARY - CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT  
January 9<sup>th</sup> - March 4<sup>th</sup> 2012**



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>11:00</b> ★ <b>Mother Goose Time</b> <i>Birth-21 months</i> Stimulating lap sit program. Includes sharing board books, nursery rhymes &amp; bouncing games. Parent participation is key!</p> 	<p><b>10:30</b> ★ <b>Books! Books! Books!</b> <i>3-5 year olds</i> This program is designed to help develop pre-reading skills and to enjoy theme based stories, fingerplays, songs &amp; games.</p> <p><b>6:30</b> ★ <b>Pizza &amp; Pages</b> <i>4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> graders</i> Nutmeg Award Book Discussion Series with a light supper. <b>2/21</b> Celebrate the Nutmeg winner &amp; join us for a Planning Party to select which of the 2013 nominees will be discussed during Pizza &amp; Pages in the coming year.</p> <p><b>3/20, 4/24 &amp; 5/22</b> Titles to be determined @ the February Planning Party.</p>	<p><b>10:00-12:00</b> <b>Playtime/ Short &amp; Sweet Storytime</b> Drop-in family fun. A story and song will be shared @ 11am <b>(NO registration required)</b></p> 	<p><b>10:30</b> ★ <b>Wee Read</b> <i>22-35 months</i> Exciting program where toddlers begin to appreciate longer stories &amp; participate in group activities. Parent participation is key!</p> <p><b>3:45</b> ★ <b>Muncha Buncha Books</b> <i>K-3rd graders</i> Books, riddles, games, crafts &amp; lots of fun! <b>1/12:</b> Begin 2012 with a New Year's Resolution Party!</p> <p><b>1/26:</b> Celebrate the Year of the Dragon with a Chinese New Year program.</p> <p><b>2/9:</b> Valentine's Day = Love Your Library program.</p> <p><b>2/23:</b> <i>So You Want to be President?</i> program.</p>	<p><b>10:00-12:00</b> <b>Playtime/ Short &amp; Sweet Storytime</b> Drop-in family fun. A story and song will be shared @ 11am <b>(NO registration required)</b></p>	<p><b>10:30</b> <b>Saturday Stories</b> Drop-in fun with books, songs and movement for the whole family. <b>(NO registration required)</b></p>
					

★ Starred programs require registration. ★

## Special Events

### 2012 Family Winter Reading Program: Reading Road Trip

The entire family reads together the amount of time agreed to, for at least five days each week to chance to win a weekly raffle. See flyer for more details.

### Nutmeg Voting

Which 2012 Nutmeg Nominee is your favorite? Visit the library to cast your vote! Intermediate (4 grades) and Teen (7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grades) ballots available at the Children's Service desk. Every vote counts.

### Registration

\***Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>:** Wethersfield Residents IN PERSON OR BY PHONE.

\***Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>:** Wethersfield Residents & Non-Residents IN PERSON OR BY PHONE

\*Classes will NOT be held when Wethersfield Schools are canceled or delayed due to weather.

\*Classes are planned to meet the developmental needs and interests of targeted age groups.

It is in the best interests of all to honor the age requirements specified for each program.



Wethersfield Library Children's Department  
2012 Family Winter Reading Program



# Winter Reading Road Trip!



January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012 – March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012

- **Registration:** Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup> for Wethersfield residents  
Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup> for non-residents
- You will receive a "Winter Reading Road Trip" map to log your reading and a family car to decorate for our giant library road map.
- Decide how many minutes you will spend reading each day as a family.
- Beginning Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, the entire family reads the amount of time agreed to, for at least five days each week.
- Color in a block on your map for every day your family reads together.
- When five blocks are colored in, bring your reading map to the library.
- At the library receive your weekly raffle ticket (1 per family) and move your family's car along the giant library road map.
- Complete weekly bonuses for extra weekly raffle tickets (1 per family)!
- Finish all eight weeks and each child will receive a paperback book of their choosing.



Wethersfield Library  
515 Silas Deane Highway  
Wethersfield, CT 06109  
[www.wethersfieldlibrary.org](http://www.wethersfieldlibrary.org)  
Children's #: 860-257-2801  
Main #: 860-529-2665



Email: [childservices@wethersfieldlibrary.org](mailto:childservices@wethersfieldlibrary.org)







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)