



# Tiger Topics

## EMERSON-WILLIAMS

JUNE 2011

### 2010-2011 PTO MEETING SCHEDULE

June 9

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## From the Principal's Desk

Elizabeth T. Catarius

Late May and June were filled with a flurry of events and field trips. One of the many events was the June 1 "Music Across America" performance by the 4th grade. Ms. Fox worked with the fourth graders to produce a concert that featured songs from the different regions of the United States. Students in grades K-3 and families and invited guests of fourth graders attended. The fourth graders were fantastic, and the audience was impressed by their ability.

Next year we will be implementing a language arts curriculum (pending BOE approval) designed to engage students, at all grade levels, in rich reading and writing experiences. Recently, our teachers have participated in district-wide professional development sessions, deepening their understanding of the reading and writing workshop model. This approach supports students' collaboration, inquiry, and critical thinking skills; all of which are necessary for success in the 21st century. Workshop experiences allow children to grow their ideas about literature, and give teachers opportunities to provide individual feedback so students can

progress in their study of the language arts.

A typical workshop session is comprised of:

- Minilesson - a short teaching point to demonstrate exactly what skills or strategies students are expected to apply on their own;
- Independent reading or writing time - teachers confer with individuals or small -groups; and
- Teaching Share - teachers bring closure to the day's work. This time is used to highlight examples of students' application of the day's minilesson in their work.

Long blocks of time for reading, writing, and talking about books—on a regular basis—is an essential element of the workshop model. The positive effects of reading and writing in great volume are well documented. Our primary students will read several books a day, and many of our intermediate students will read a book a week! Naturally, we'll expect our students to read both at school and at home.

In closing, I hope that you all have a wonderful summer!

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to the students in Miss Foley's 1st grade class. They brought in 1,190 Box Tops to win a Popcorn Party! In total, we raised approximately \$775 for Emerson-Williams from this contest. Don't forget to keep clipping those Box Tops all summer long!



# PTO Highlights

Can you believe it? Only a few more weeks of school! This year has absolutely flown by. Before we sign off for the year, we still have a few important days ahead.

This Saturday we have our annual Strawberry Fest—it is shaping up to be a great day! You can find more details in the pages that follow and also in the guide that will be distributed in backpacks this week.

On August 11, we will be holding our 2nd Annual Golf Tournament at Lyman Orchards Golf Club. Everyone reading this newsletter is either a golfer or knows a golfer, or knows of a business that would be an appropriate sponsor. If we all utilize our contacts, we could have a sold out tournament!

A new playscape will cost between \$80,000 and \$90,000, which is an astronomical amount. To give you an idea, we raise approximately \$20,000 each year for all the programs and activities we support. If we doubled our

fundraising, it would take four years at that rate to pay for a new playscape—we don't have that kind of time. It is CRUCIAL that everyone helps to promote our tournament so that we can get the best turnout possible.

We would like to thank everyone who came out for our springtime Dinner on the Lawn. The weather was beautiful and a good time was had by all.

We are always looking for new and different fundraising ideas to try. If you see something that catches your eye as a good fit for Emerson-Williams, please let us know.

Stay tuned for one final year-end edition of Tiger Topics later this month in which we will wrap up the year.

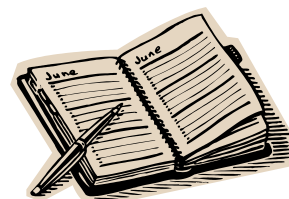
Regards,

Paula Heinzmann - 2<sup>nd</sup> year Co-President  
Andrea Ginter - 1<sup>st</sup> year Co-President

## Mark Your Calendars!

Take a look at what is coming up:

Thursday, 6/9	PTO Meeting
Saturday, 6/11	Strawberry Fest
Wednesday, 6/15	Field Day
Thursday, 6/16	E-W Night at Rita's
Thursday, 6/23	Last Day of School
Thursday, 8/11	Golf Tournament



## Golf Tournament Update



Plans for the August 11 Golf Tournament at Lyman Orchards Golf Club are coming together nicely, but we need your help! We have created two different brochures—one for golfers and another for sponsors. Please take a moment to forward the link to the brochures by e-mail to all of your personal and business contacts, post the link to your Facebook profile, and spread the word about this great event. The brochures can be found at <http://ewpto.com/2011-Golf-Brochures.php>. Please consider sending the tournament information to friends, relatives and business colleagues—it is not necessary to have a child at E-W to enjoy a fun day of golf or to promote your business. If you are in need of printed brochures for your workplace or to send to your employer's marketing/charitable contributions department, please contact Paul LaPerriere at [golf@ewpto.com](mailto:golf@ewpto.com). Thanks and see you on the green!



Would you like to see a possible savings of \$150-\$250 annually on your energy costs? Then come talk to Chamae from the Wethersfield's Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge. She will be at the Strawberry Festival talking to people about the program and how you can save money by having an energy assessment done on your home. Trained contractors will spend up to four hours in your home sealing up all the cracks and leaks, installing efficient light bulbs and water saving measures. This will cut back your energy use significantly. There is a \$75.00 fee for the assessment and \$25.00 of that goes towards the E-W playground fund. This is a great opportunity for you to save money on your energy bills and help contribute towards our future playground.

## E-W Night at Rita's

We will be holding a Springtime E-W Night at Rita's on the Silas Deane Highway in Rocky Hill. Stop by on Thursday, June 16 from 6-9pm and a portion of your purchase will be donated by Rita's to the PTO. Have a baseball/softball/soccer game that night? No problem! Come by after the game—it will be a perfect time to cool off with a sweet treat.



## Get Ready for Spirit Week!

Our Student Council has planned a fun week for us on June 13-17. Below is the Spirit Week schedule:

Monday- "Move It Monday"

Enjoy an extra recess, either with your class or your entire grade level!

Tuesday- "Trade on Tuesday"

Teachers will trade classes for a lesson during the day!

Wednesday- "Watching Wednesday"

Watch a fun movie with your entire grade!

Thursday- "T-shirt Thursday"

Bring in a t-shirt for your classmates to sign. Then wear it on Friday for the kickball game!

Friday- "Footy Friday"

Teachers vs. kids in a fun and cool kickball game!

Thanks to Mrs. Laskowski, Ms. Emmanuel, Mrs. Vicente and the Student Council members for their efforts this year.

# Strawberry Fest Update

You will be receiving a detailed guide to Saturday's Strawberry Fest later this week. Until then, we would like to highlight just a couple things:



It's not too late to volunteer! In order to make this event a success, we need everyone to pitch in! We have been getting some feedback from room parents who are having difficulty recruiting helpers. Please consider helping out for only 30 minutes, so that all parents can have a chance to enjoy the day with their families. Contact Paula Heinzmann, Andrea Ginter or your room parent and we will get you scheduled for a convenient time. Grandparents are also welcome as helpers!

Also, we are still seeking baked goods donations for the Cake Walk. The baked items should be dropped off in zip lock baggies, covered paper plates or any other type of disposable dish. Anything made in large quantity can be divided into smaller portions such as a dozen cookies or six cupcakes. All baked goods are welcome and can be dropped off at the main office on Friday, June 10th. If you have any questions please call Phoebe Ostergren at 571-8748.

We have put a lot of time and effort into this year's Strawberry Fest, and we hope you plan to attend this fun event to celebrate the great year we have had. Thanks and see you on Saturday!



## Final Notes of Thanks ...

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Spirit Cups fundraiser. Together we raised almost \$800!

Thanks to the Vasel family for coming to beautify the grounds of Emerson-Williams on their own after the official Clean Up Day was canceled for weather reasons.

Thank you to Katharina Cacioli for organizing the annual May Teacher Appreciation Lunch. The lounge was transformed into a relaxing "outdoor" retreat. We would also like to thank each of the volunteers who helped make the day even more special with their delicious treats - Phoebe Ostergren, Michele Livingston, Michele LaVoie, Kathleen Peacock, Alicia Schenkel, Kim McGrath, Sue Breglio, Carolee Parker, and Michelle Bosco.

Did you enjoy Appreciation Day? Thanks to Michele Lavoie and Mrs. Corsair for making it happen.

Thank you to Sue Breglio for providing a cool, refreshing treat for our June Teacher Appreciation.



Children's Department  
JUNE 2011

<b>Collection on Display</b>	<i>Dogs</i> by Lily Gaunt
<b>NOW SHOWING!</b> (on flat screen located @ the Children's information desk)	<i>Slideshow of past summer reading programs.</i>
<b>Themed displays: include booklists, coloring or activity sheets</b>	<p><i>Reading Road Trip:</i> Join us as we embark on a Reading Road Trip for the 2011 Summer Reading Program! Read great stories from across the U.S.A.</p> <p><i>Sensational Summer Stories:</i> Books and audio books perfect for your summer vacation!</p> <p><i>Father's Day:</i> Books about the important men in our lives!</p> <p><i>Super Heroes:</i> Check out books about Batman, Spider-man, Super 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>Utopia</b> 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>Wednesday June 1, 2011</b>	<p>Registration begins for the 2011 Summer Reading Program: <b>READING ROAD TRIP</b>. Wethersfield residents can win a <b>limo ride</b> with Steve of SteveSongs to the kickoff if you register before June 23<sup>rd</sup>, courtesy of Premier Limousine.</p> <p><b>Residents only</b></p>
<b>Tuesday June 7, 2011</b>	<p>Registration begins for the 2011 Summer Reading Program <b>Kickoff with SteveSongs</b>.</p> <p><b>Residents only</b></p>
<b>Monday June 20, 2011</b>	<p>Registration begins for the 2011 Summer Reading Program &amp; for the June 27<sup>th</sup> Kickoff</p> <p><b>Non-residents</b></p>
<b>Monday June 27, 2011</b>	<p>On your mark, get set, GO! Begin logging the days you read for the 2011 Summer Reading Program: <b>READING ROAD TRIP</b></p> <p>6:30pm: <b>KICKOFF</b> for the 2011 Summer Reading Program with SteveSongs. <b>Registration required for both</b></p>
<b>Tuesday June 28, 2011</b>	<p>2:30pm: <b>GAME DAY:</b> for those entering K &amp; up</p> <p>Each week will feature a variety of interactive games including Wii, Minute-to-Win-It and more!</p>



<b>Tuesday</b> <b>June 28, 2011</b>	<i>6:30pm: CHAT &amp; CHEW: for those entering grades 4 &amp; up</i> Chat about great reads, share your favorites, and go online to check out what's new with your favorite authors while enjoying yummy treats! <i>Registration required for both</i>
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>June 29, 2011</b>	<i>10:30am: BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS: storytime for all ages</i> Theme-based stories, fingerplays, games & songs. <i>Drop-in program, no registration required</i>
<b>Thursday</b> <b>June 30, 2011</b>	<i>2:30pm: ROAD TRIP CRAFTS: for ages 4 &amp; up</i> Travel/road trip crafts with stories. <i>Registration is required</i>
<b>Ongoing JUNE Events</b>	
<b>Friday</b> Year-round	<i>10am-12 noon: Drop-In Playtime; at 11:00am: Short &amp; Sweet Storytime: all ages</i> Drop-in family fun with stories and songs. <i>All are welcome!</i>
<b>Saturday</b> Year-round	<i>10:30am: Saturday Stories: all ages</i> Drop-in fun with books, songs and movement for the whole family! <i>All are welcome!</i>
<b>Coming Attractions</b>	
<b>June 27<sup>th</sup> -</b> <b>August 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>2011 Summer Reading Program: take a <b>Reading Road Trip</b></i> Take a trip to the library to register for the summer reading program and win prizes just for reading 15 minutes each day!
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>August 16, 2011</b>	<i>2011 Summer Reading Program <b>Grand Finale!</b> Will include the principals' challenge: <b>A Reading Road Trip RELAY!</b></i>