



Tiger Topics School Newsletter

EMERSON-WILLIAMS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTO

WELCOME TO
EMERSON-WILLIAMS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

VISIT OUR
WEBSITE AT
WWW.EWPTO.COM

FROM THE DESK OF THE EWPTO CO-PRESIDENTS

Dear Emerson-Williams Community,
Thomas Jefferson has said “I’m a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work, the more luck I have.” March brings in the “roars” of the lions, the “luck” of the Irish, the “madness” of basketball and much more. We all will be working hard going into spring that is sure to bring happiness to all! I’m pretty sure it’s the hard work each and everyone of us do – and not luck at all, Mr. Jefferson.

This past weekend, we had our first-ever E-W Cultural Night. Chrissy Pikos, Ms. Root and Mrs. Pulino worked throughout the past months meeting and planning for this monumental night for Emerson. To see the gym filled with a TON of families from E-W, to have gone through 125 passports within the first 20 minutes, to have performances that haven’t been seen before and to see all our community conversing about one another’s culture is just what we have always wanted for our PTO. This was such a blessing to have an amazing turnout and we are so thankful for everyone that came out to make this night such a huge success!

We have quite several events and activities planned from now until the end of school, including but not limited to:

- Half Days (3/19, 3/21, 5/24)

- Spring Recess (4/8-4/12)
- No School (4/19, 5/27)
- 6th Grade Family Yoga Night (3/28)
- Mixed Bags Design Fundraiser (4/15-4/28)
- Screen Free Week (4/29-5/3)
- Family Dinner on the Lawn (by the 6th Grade Committee 4/29)
- Main Street Creamery Family Fundraiser (5/1)
- Family Paint Night (FREE 5/3)
- Teacher Appreciation Week (5/6-5/10)
- Yard Goats Family Game (5/19)
- Someone Special Dance (5/31)

We have done amazing with all our fundraising this year that we’re trying to fit in as many family FREE events, as possible, to continue bringing our community together. We are so excited for these events and would love to hear from you if you’d like to volunteer. Please reach out to ptoboard@ewpto.com!

As a flyer noted last week, our annual Strawberry Festival that is held in June is at risk of not happening this year. This is one of our largest events that brings in many from Wethersfield, and not just our school community, and there is no Chair currently to begin the planning for the event. If we do not

receive any volunteers for this event by 3/29, the Strawberry Festival will likely be cancelled for this school year.

The Beautification Committee has been actively working on the school bathrooms. They have been coming into the school throughout February, and every Friday evening in March, to bring some color to the dark, old bathrooms. The 6th grade boys’ bathroom is just about complete. The 6th grade girl’s bathroom will be completed on 3/15. The Committee plans to move on to the 3rd and 2nd grade bathrooms next, and finally the Kindergarten bathrooms. The committee has painted dark frames to add bright, inspirational sayings to let the kids know how important they are and to remind them to always remain positive. When you visit the school – be sure to check out the bathrooms! WE WOULD LOVE SOME ADDITIONAL

(continued on page 3)

2019 PTO Meetings

Emerson-Williams
Upper Media Center at
Emerson-Williams at 7:00 p.m.

April 18,
May 9 & June 6

EWPTO Event Calendar

March 1-15

Box Tops Collection

March 8

Cultural Night, EW gymnasium • 7pm -9pm

March 10

Wolf Pack Game • 3pm

March 11

Munson's Chocolates fundraiser ends

March 14

EWPTO Meeting 7:00 pm in the Upper Media Center at Emerson-Williams

March 15

Mohegan Sun bus trip • 6pm - 12am
6th grade fundraiser

March 19

Half Day of School - 12:55 Dismissal

March 21

Half Day of School - 12:55 Dismissal

April 8 - 12

No School - Spring Recess

April 15 - 26

Mixed Bags Fundraiser

April 18

EWPTO Meeting 7:00 pm in the Upper Media Center at Emerson-Williams

April 19

No School - Good Friday

April 29

Spring Picture Day

May - TBA

Poetry Afternoon

May 1

Wethersfield Creamery Fundraiser • 4pm - 7pm

May 5

Cheer Committee Teacher/Staff Luncheon

May 9

EWPTO Meeting 7:00 pm in the Upper Media Center at Emerson-Williams

May 19

Yard Goats Game

May 24

Half Day of School - 12:55 Dismissal

May 27

No School - Memorial Day

May 31

Someone Special Dance

June - TBA

Strawberry Festival

June 17

Tentative Last Day of School

WSPC Calendar

April 29- May 3

Screen Free week

May 8

Bike/Walk to School Day

September 13

Movie on the Lawn

September 27

Movie on the Lawn, rain date

Wethersfield Calendar

June 1

Fireworks, Cove Park

September 21

Cornfest, Wethersfield Green

December 5

Holidays on Main, Main Street

Open Committees & Volunteer Opportunities

Strawberry Festival: The co-chairs oversee and organize the production of this loved carnival/festival usually held in June. In the past, areas have been subcommittees between food, Cake Walk and other areas of the festival. As the chair of this committee, you can make it as big or small as you'd like. Past information is available to aid in planning.

Poetry Afternoon: Committee members coordinate with Reading Teacher, Ms. McLaughlin, to help set up the spring poetry afternoon. *Typically occurs in the Spring.*

Field Day: Ms. Dalke is looking for parent help at different stations. Field Day is June 3.

Website: Responsible for maintaining and making updates to the PTO website and Facebook page. Behind the scene work includes creating email forwarders, creating SignUp Genius, scanning flyers, inputting events into Google Calendar, and renewing website domain. Looking for volunteer to start next year. Current website will be changed to a WordPress site. Please contact webmaster@ewpto.com for more information.

Please see a Board member to join any of these committees or email ptboard@ewpto.com

Volunteer Help Wanted:

April is National Poetry Month, and we celebrate at Emerson-Williams School by inviting our students to submit a poem(s) to our Poetry Mailbox. Poems, then, are "magically" mounted on construction paper and hung in our hallways. We also have an Afternoon of Poetry in May (date TBD). Here's how you can help.

- 1 x/week (either one time, or more than once; your choice!), mount poems on construction paper and hang them up in our hallway. Construction paper, tape, a table at which to work, and much gratitude will be provided! You may choose the day. Just check in advance to be sure there are poems waiting for you. **OR**
- Help with the Afternoon of Poetry Event (Date:TBD... probably late May)
- Setting up probs on the stage (at about 2:15 on the day of the event)
- Helping to receive refreshments that participants' families bring to the event (beginning shortly after 3:00), and pour lemonade. One person has already volunteered to coordinate this. We'll simply need another pair of hands to help.
- Much gratitude will be provided!

From the Desk of the EWPTO Co-Presidents

(continued from page 1)

VOLUNTEERS TO HELP US. IF YOU'D LIKE TO COME AND SPEND A FRIDAY NIGHT MAKING THE BATHROOMS "HAPPY", email or text Autumn Struk at autumn.struk@gmail.com / 860-209-4344.

Our Wish List Committee has continued to make purchases for the teachers and staff of EW with their requested items. To date, we have bought:

- Photo keepers for new phonics and curriculum cards for the Kindergarten
- Bilingual books and LanguageLizard.com subscription for our ESL department
- Paper shredder for the School Nurse
- Fluent Spanish 1, 2 and 3 training for School Psychologist
- 2 Big Joe Aloha chairs for flexible seating in 3rd grade classroom
- 5 Jumbo sized die cuts for the Library
- Gel writing boards for 2nd grade classroom
- Privacy boards and Toobaloo feedback phones for 2nd grade classrooms
- Lost and Found rack and hangers
- Donors Choose for 2nd grade classroom and 4th grade classroom

With Spring here, it's the time to start brainstorming things to do for the next school year, as well as continue to move forward with all that is planned for the current one! We have our By-laws review meeting scheduled for Wednesday, 3/20 at 7pm at Panera. We also have our Budget meeting scheduled for Sunday Morning, 3/31 at 8:30am at Panera. Feel free to come! Another big part of this time of the school year is the announcements for new people to take on some of the PTO Board Positions! At this time, the 1st year Co-President role is open for the 2019/2020 school year and needs to be filled. We would love for anyone who has any interest in any of these positions, or know someone who you would like to nominate to be on the board, to please reach out to the nomination committee at nominations@ewpto.com. Feel free to also reach out to inquire about the responsibilities of the position to see if they may interest you! We promise it's so rewarding, and we are so excited to see new ideas and people come in.

Remember, the possibilities are endless at Emerson-Williams. We have an amazing community of teachers, staff, parents and children! To see smiles and to receive thanks makes everything we do so very worth it. We hope you have a fantastic rest of your March and we'll chat in April!

With love and Respect,

Your EWPTO Co-Presidents – Autumn & Chrissy

April is Backpack Safety Awareness Month!

Of all the things we think about as parents of school children, backpack safety may be a low priority. However, backpacks are something to think about as using them improperly over time, can cause long term back problems. To promote a healthy spine for your child, here are some tips to consider:

1. **Choose the Right Pack:** Choose a pack with wide, padded shoulders to help distribute the weight and contents of the backpack evenly. This will reduce pressure on the shoulders and neck.

2. **Pack the Right Stuff:** Pack only the essential items needed. The weight of the backpack and contents should not exceed 15%. For example, an 80 lb student should not carry a backpack weight of more 12 lbs.

3. **Lift the Right Way:** When lifting a back pack from the floor, use both hands and bend at the knees.

4. **Wear it Right:** Use both straps with a snug fit. Also, the waist strap is highly recommended (if the back pack is equipped with this feature).

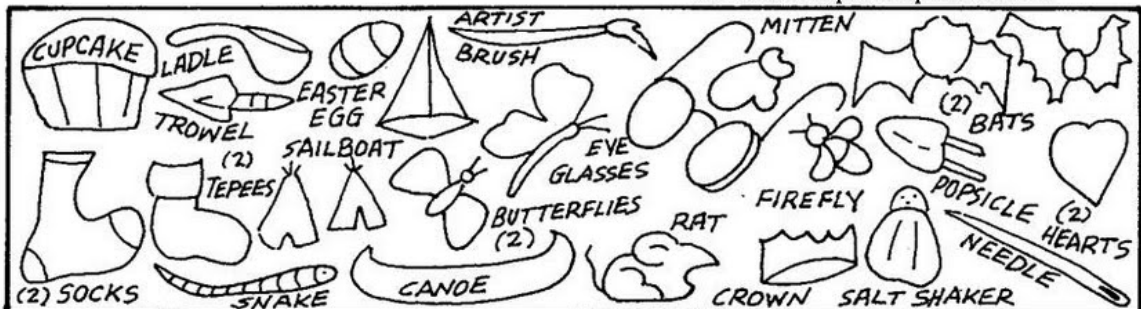
Share your culture in Tiger Topics and with the Emerson-Williams Elementary School's community.

Like many other schools, Emerson-Williams is made up of students from many different backgrounds. We invite parents, students, and staff to share your culture in Tiger Topics.

Send your article or questions to Tigertopics@ewpto.com



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 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTO**

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COME AND GET YOUR YOGA ON!

The 6th Grade Fundraising Committee is hosting a Family Yoga Night

THURSDAY, 3/28

\$5 PER PERSON / \$10 FAMILY MAX

6:30PM EW GYM

Mrs. Keel and Mrs. Erickson will be instructing the night in the EW Gym

Water and Refreshments will be provided to all
Please bring a towel or yoga mat



This Event is helped run by The Dreaming Tree

*Come help the 6th Grade raise funds for their Events (so no one misses out) and **HAVE A GREAT TIME** with your **FAMILY** and our **EW Community!***

...and a plus – our instructors are our very own Mrs. Keel and Mrs. Erickson...

___ Yes, I want to participate in Family Yoga Night on 3/8

___ No, we can't participate, but we'll donate \$5!

Student Name: _____

Family Email: _____

Student Grade & Teacher: _____

of Tickets: _____ Total Amount: \$ _____

Checks may be made payable to EWPTO



**To nominate yourself or someone else for
this position –
please go to www.ewpto.com and fill out
the nomination form
OR
reach out Stephanie Conashevick &
Christina Carreiro at
nominations@ewpto.com**

1st Year Co-President Information:

- 2 Year Position
- Work side-by-side other 3 board members to create a positive environment for E-W Community Members
 - Chrissy Pikos will move to 2nd Year Co-President
 - Fran Schwartzhaupt is remaining secretary for her 2nd year
 - Amy Burlingame is remaining treasurer for her 2nd year
- Attend and help lead PTO Meetings
- Be a point of contact for the school and family communities

ORDERS WILL BE READY FOR PICKUP
MONDAY, 4/15



ORDERS MAY BE PICKED UP
BETWEEN 3PM-6PM

AT AUTUMN'S
24 SOUTHWELL RD



MUNSON'S FUNDRAISER

NEED ALTERNATE ARRANGEMENTS?
CONTACT AUTUMN
860-209-4344

EMERSON-WILLIAMS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Someone Special Dance HOLLYWOOD EDITION

Dress to walk the red carpet!

Dance to *Darth Vader*

Friday, May 31 ♦ 5pm – 8pm
Emerson-Williams Gymnasium
\$5 per family
Powered by EWPTO

Please submit the below ticket order form to your teacher by Monday, May 13
Tickets also available at the door the night of dance!

Student Name: _____

Student Teacher and Grade: _____

of Family Members Attending: _____

Enclosed Amount: _____

*Every EW student should bring one very special adult in their life.
Only EW students, siblings and their parents permitted.
All students must be accompanied by an adult.*