

Well that was a very quick Spring! Who is ready for Summer Vacation?

Thank you to our outgoing EWPTO Board members for your hard work and dedication!

MAY 2018

FROM THE DESK OF THE EWPTO CO-PRESIDENTS

Dear Emerson-Williams Community,

I don't know about you but as June gets closer and closer I often stop and wonder where the time went. Our children have gotten taller and have experienced the world a little bit more. They have learned life lessons and have made stronger relationships. They've become smarter and wiser. And I am so thankful they go to a school like Emerson-Williams which has such a loving staff and a beautiful community of parents.

As we near the end of the school year and as my two years as your PTO Co-President come to an end, I'd like to thank you for the support and the effort that

you put into the PTO and our children's school. This school has so much spirit and such a sense of community, our children are so lucky. Whether you have chaired one of the major events or participated in any fundraiser or attended a social event, you help make the school a really wonderful place for our children and the staff at Emerson- Williams. I am so proud of leading this group and for all the support and help I've received over the years.

The end of the year is full of PTO events! Hip Hop is back, sponsored by the PTO! And there will be a family event on Friday June 8th at 6:30-8:00pm where Austin (the Hip Hop artist) will be giving kids and parents Hip Hop lessons!

And, Saturday June 9th is the Strawberry Festival- stay tuned for fliers coming home for volunteering. And by now your children should have had a High Touch-High Tech in their classroom - a hands on STEAM classroom assembly sponsored by the PTO. I can't want to see you at an upcoming event!

Thank you so much,

Colleen Mattatall

2nd Year Co-President

Contact the entire EWPTO Board by sending an email to ptoboard@ewpto.com

EWPTO Event Calendar

May 20

EW at the Yard Goats, 1:05pm game time – Akron RubberDucks vs. Hartford Yard Goats. Gates open at 11:30 a.m.

May 24

Incoming Kindergarten Story
Time – Parents and their
registered 2018-2019
kindergarten student will receive
a letter inviting them to one of
three morning 45 minute time
slots for a teacher story time
(8:45-9:30, 9:45-10:30, and 10:4511:30 a.m.) Your letter will advise
you of which time slot to attend.

May 25

Minimum School Day – Dismissal at 12:55 p.m.

and

Red, White, and Blue Spirit Day - Wear red, white, and blue today.

May 28

Memorial Day – No School

May 30

Spring Concert at WHS

May 31

Field Day 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. on the field at EW. Mr. Coursey has assigned each student to a group by color. Remember to wear a shirt that matches your group color, wear comfortable clothing and sneakers, and apply sun block before school.

June 6, 7, and 8

Hip Hop Classes for EW Students

June 7

EWPTO Meeting 7:00 p.m. in the Upper Media Center

June 8

Crazy Hair Spirit Day – Design the craziest hair anyone has ever seen to showcase at school.

And

Hip Hop Family Night – Parents are invited to EW 6:30-8:00 p.m. for some hip hopping fun. Learn dance moves and dance with your kids.

June 9

Strawberry Festival, 10:00a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at Emerson-Williams. Advance wristband sales (available now through 6/5/18) are \$5 per child with a \$10 family maximum. Entrance wristbands sold on the day of the event will be \$5 per child with a \$15 family maximum. Adults are FREE and do not need a wristband!

June 22

Last Day of School – Does not include future school closings.

Aug 28

2:00 – 2:30 p.m. Kindergarten New Teacher Meet & Greet with ride on a school bus.

and

2:30 – 3:00 p.m. New Teacher Meet and Greet for Grades 1 through 6.

September 8

EW's 2nd Annual Color Run

2018 PTO MEETINGS

7:00 p.m. on the following Thursdays in the EW Upper Media Center at Emerson-Williams

June 7



Strawberry Festival Volunteers Needed!

Please consider volunteering to help out at the Strawberry Festival this year! Did you know that Strawberry Festival requires over 40 volunteers an hour? With your help we can make this a very successful event. Even one hour of your time makes things even run more successfully. Please sign up to volunteer today- see flier on page 10 of Tiger Topics.

Passing the Torch: EWPTO Board

Let's give a great big Tiger roar of thanks to:

James Langdo for being EWPTO Secretary for last three years. James organization and thoroughness has helped lead the pto successfully. He has implemented several wonderful ways to share documents and is a stellar note taker. He has also faithfully sent the weekly emails keeping our parents up to date with upcoming events. James is an excellent team player and the EW community is so thankful for everything James has done for our PTO.

Peping Dee, Jr. for being Treasurer of EWPTO for the last two years. Peping's organized method and calm demeanor have run the books successfully. He has created some methods which help create better record keeping and have been steadfast in his leadership. We are so grateful for his grounded opinions and his factual positions and his team-oriented approach. Thank you, Peping.

Colleen Mattatall for being EWPTO 1st/2nd Year Co-President for the last two years. Colleen is a very active member of the EW Community and has done so many amazing things for our school and children. As she steps down this June, let's to take a moment to thank her for everything she has accomplished over the last two years on the board; the amount of time and effort she has put in to ensuring our PTO runs effectively and efficiently will be missed. She has spent countless hours on ensuring our community, children, and staff were supported in every way and went above and beyond in measures needed to reach PTO goals. Colleen, you will be missed on the board! You've done a phenomenal job and we appreciate you! Thank you for everything you have done for the school and PTO!

WSPC Volunteer Award – Congratulations!



Get To Know the Emerson-Williams Support Staff of The Tiger Talk Blog http://ewtigertalk.blogspot.com



Mrs. Deborah Byrne

Hello, I'm Mrs. Deborah Byrne, the Special Education Teacher at Emerson-Williams Elementary School. I have three children and a cat. I love to read, garden, and jog. What I love most about Emerson-Williams is the enthusiasm the students bring with them every day. Every day is different and I can never predict what will happen day to day. I love reminding students of all the fun activities and events that the EWPTO has and always chatting them up with the students about the fun they had at the events.



Ms. Carissa Mierzejewski

Hello, I'm Ms. Carissa Mierzejewski, the School Social Worker at Emerson-Williams Elementary School. I have two cats named Leah and LuLu, I lived in Barcelona for four months, and my favorite food is cereal. What I love most about Emerson-Williams is that we're such a caring community that helps one another. I know that I can rely on my fellow teacher friends to help me when I need it. I also see that same positive relationship amongst our EW students. Our staff, students, and parents are always willing to lend a helping hand and that makes for a really good school environment. I also love hip hop week. I am so glad that we're doing it again this year because it gives kids the opportunity for movement and to tap into their creative side. Thank you, EWPTO for making this event happen again!



Ms. Melissa Florio

Hello, I'm Ms. Melissa Florio, the Speech-Language Pathologist here at Emerson-Williams Elementary School. I have a dog that I treat like my child and people think it's funny that I hate bacon! What I love most about Emerson-Williams is how passionate all the wonderful teachers are here. It is fabulous when your co-workers are as just as passionate about their students as you are! I've only been at Emerson-Williams a short while, however every EWPTO event I have attended has been so thought out and wonderful! They provide the teachers with amazing luncheons and they hold awesome events for our students to enjoy! Have you read our Tiger Talk Blog? We work collaboratively as a department to come up with ideas that we think would be of interest to parents. We want to keep them in the loop about important initiatives going on here at Emerson-Williams. We also want parents to understand everything we do and exactly how we best support each of our students.

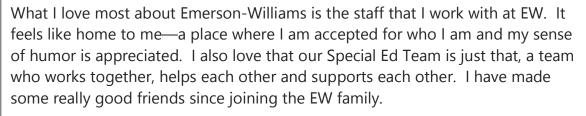


Ms. Rita Heinze

Hello, I'm Ms. Rita Heinze, the Special Education Resource Teacher for grades Kindergarten through Grade 4 at Emerson-Williams Elementary School. I grew up in Wethersfield and attended Wethersfield Public Schools. I live in Wethersfield with my family. At EW, I share a classroom with Mrs. Byrne... which is so cool because we were in the same class at Mitchell School in grades 2, 3, and 4!! What I love most about Emerson-Williams is seeing the students excited to learn something new, and try something new, and get excited when they understand something that may have, at first, been challenging. I loved receiving my Superhero cape on Teacher Appreciation Day, from EWPTO, and all of the staff wore them!!

Get To Know the Emerson-Williams Support Staff of The Tiger Talk Blog http://ewtigertalk.blogspot.com

Hello, I'm Mrs. Donna Zuber, the School Psychologist at Emerson-Williams Elementary School. Fun facts about me... I love to read books; especially scary ones. Stephen King is my favorite author. I went bungee jumping one summer in Myrtle Beach and gave myself a fear of heights! But, I still love riding rollercoasters!! I have met several actors from the TV show The Walking Dead, including my favorite: Norman Reedus who plays Daryl Dixon. I have loved the band Bon Jovi since I was twelve. Grease is still my all-time favorite movie. Currently, my favorite color is purple. I drink tons of tea! Bacon... need I say more...



I have always wanted to work with kids, and the kids at EW are great. It is especially fulfilling to get to see the students grow throughout their years here and see their abilities flourish. As a school psychologist, I get to work with all kinds of different students and they all have unique personalities. When what we have been working on, whether it's social skills, coping strategies, problem solving, etc., starts to click and I get to see them effectively use what they have learned and manage their own behaviors, emotions and peer interactions, then I know I am helping to make a difference for that student and that is a great feeling to have.

Do you remember the EWPTO Color Run!! I loved throwing colors at the runners and walkers. My son was able to come with me and he had a blast as well. Also, I love that our PTO makes sure that all the staff at EW feels appreciated. From lunches and treats to kind words in passing, you guys are awesome!

Tiger Talk Blog—We created our Tiger Talk Blog last year as a way to get information out to parents. What has been great is that while it's a collaborative process with the special education staff, we are also able to include topics that parents have expressed interest in as well, as having "guest" bloggers from EW staff when they have info they would like to share. I have to give kudos to our wonderful Social Worker, Carissa Mierzejewski, who was instrumental in helping us get the blog going and making sure we keep on top of it.



Mrs. Donna Zuber

Save http://ewtigertalk.blogspot.com to your favorites and watch for new postings.

Media Center - Library Reading Volunteers Needed for Grades K - 2

Are you a parent of a student in Kindergarten, 1st or 2nd Grade? We are looking for volunteers through early June to sign-up for a slot to read to a class. You can either bring 1 – 3 books from home that your child likes or Mrs. Corsair, our wonderful EW Media Specialist/Librarian, will select a book(s) for you to read. It's totally up to you – have fun with it! Select your child's classroom below for the sign-up sheet at http://ewpto.com/mediacenter.html

Emerson-Williams Music Department

Please visit the Music Department websites and Facebook page for more information!

Ms. Caravella's (Band & Orchestra Director) Website:

https://emersonwilliamsbandstrings.weebly.com

Ms. Fortuna's (General Music & Choral Director) Website:

http://emersonwilliamschorus.weebly.com

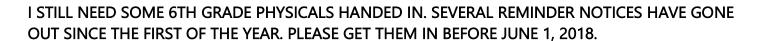
Friend the Music Department on Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/EWTigerMusic

Tiger Topics Health Tips

By Linda Ciarcia, RN, BSN

As we near the end of school there are a few items that need to be addressed.



PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO PICK UP YOUR CHILD'S MEDICATION AT SCHOOL. I CAN NOT SEND ANY MEDICATION HOME WITH CHILDREN! I CAN NOT STORE MEDICATION OVER THE SUMMER. IF IT IS NOT PICKED UP BY JUNE 22^{TH} , I WILL HAVE TO DISPOSE OF IT.

MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

Parents of students, who take medication in school, please have all paperwork filled out by you and the doctor, and returned in AUGUST along with any medication that is needed. Remember all medication, even over-the-counter, requires a doctor's signed order. **NO MEDICATION CAN BE SENT IN WITH CHILDREN.** Medication forms can be found on the PTO website.

REMINDER to all FIFTH grade students [almost sixth grade students]:

All students <u>MUST</u> complete the necessary health assessment and required immunizations prior to <u>JUNE 1, 2019</u>. A physical must be completed during the 2018-2019 school year. I am looking for the 11-year-old assessment. If not, your child's school records will be delayed in transfer to the middle school. Make your appointments early so the physical can be completed in a timely manner. A letter has been sent home explaining this. The blue forms can be found on the PTO website along with any medication forms you may need.



Tiger Topics Health Tips continued...

TICKS

Spring is finally here and the desire to run, walk, play, garden, hike and so much more outside is high. However, before you or your children take a stroll outside you'll want to protect yourself and loved ones from ticks that often lurk in tall grass, wooded areas and thick brush. The hidden danger with ticks is that many of them carry disease, so do what you can to keep ticks from biting you.

First things first: ticks are small eight-legged arachnids that feed on blood through biting the person or animal they latch on and require blood meals to complete their life cycles. Ticks are transmitters of diseases to both humans and animals.

Tick-borne diseases tend to have similar symptoms that may develop days to weeks after a tick bite, such as fever, fatigue, headache, muscle or joint pain and decreased appetite. The well-known "bull's eye" rash (red centered rash with circular red rash around the outside) that often appears after a tick bite is associated with Lyme's disease, which is one of the most common diseases transmitted by ticks.

If you or a loved one notice any of the above symptoms, especially a "bull's eye" shaped rash, please see a doctor promptly to be evaluated and treated accordingly. Tick bites are commonly treated with antibiotics.

The best way to avoid Lyme's disease and other tick-borne diseases is to prevent tick bites from occurring. Help keep ticks off your skin by wearing long sleeves, long pants and long socks when outside.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) suggests wearing insect repellent that contains at least 20 percent DEET (for the skin) or permethrin (for clothes) when going outside to help keep ticks away. Also, to avoid ticks walk in the center of trails and avoid tall grass areas.

Remember to always check your clothes and skin carefully for ticks after being outside. Removing ticks right away can help prevent tick-borne disease since they often dig and burrow into the skin before they bite.

The NIH recommends you promptly remove ticks to reduce the risk of tick-borne diseases. The NIH suggests you follow the following steps when removing a tick:

- Use fine-tipped tweezers.
- Grab the tick close to the skin and gently pull upward to remove the entire tick.
- Don't use home remedies like petroleum jelly, nail polish or a lit match to try to detach ticks.
- After removing the tick, clean the area and wash your hands thoroughly. If you develop a fever, severe headache or a rash within days to weeks of removing the tick, see a doctor.

Be aware of ticks and make a habit of tick prevention as you venture out into the great outdoors. Please do not forget to check your children and yourself thoroughly for ticks after playing and/or working outside. For further questions and/or concerns, please contact your school's nurse.

Strawberry Festival Raffle Baskets

The Strawberry Festival Committee needs your help! Every grade level is assigned a Basket Theme and we are asking parents/guardians to donate new items to fill their child's grade level basket(s). Or, any grade level you are able to donate, is great! Donations will be collected even after the 5/18/18 deadline.

Grade, and Basket Themes are:

Kindergarten - Marvel, DC Comics, Superheros, Rainbows & Unicorns

Theme Ideas: Coloring Books, T-Shirts & Socks, Tattoos, Stickers, Posters, Lunch Boxes, Water Bottles, Pencils, Erasers, Figurines, Stuffed Animals, Cups, Pillows, Color Inspired Items...or anything else!

1st Grade - S.T.E.A.M-Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, & Math

Theme Ideas: Legos, Experiments, Robotics, Notebooks, Magnifying Glass, Calculator, Books on (Science, Animals, Flowers, Plants, Space), Tape/Glue, Straws, Colored Construction Paper, Scissors...or anything else!

2nd Grade - Life's a Beach/Lake

Theme Ideas: Beach Bags, Cooler, Sand Toys, Towels, Beach Ball, Tube or other Blow Up Items, Blanket, Goggles, Sunscreen, Sunglasses, Water Shoes, Umbrella, Water Toys, Frisbee, Chapstick...or anything else!

3rd Grade - Family Fitness

Theme Ideas: Workout DVD's, Yoga Mat, Water Bottles, Weights, Jump Ropes, Trails or Hiking Books, Pedometer, Balls, Frisbees, Headbands, Energy Bars, Protein Drinks, Bath Salts, Bath Bombs, Loofa, Body Cream...or anything else!

4th Grade - As Seen On TV

Theme Ideas: Squishies, Pillow Pets, Snackeez, Hatchimals, Flipazoos, Stompeez, Kinetic Sand, Magnetic Slime, Dream Tents...or anything else!

5th Grade - Let's Get Cooking, Baking, BBQing

Theme Ideas: Aprons, Kitchen Utensils, Kitchen Towels, Cookbooks, Ingredients for a Particular Recipe, Grill Pan, Baking Pan, Sauces, Seasonings, Baking Decorations...or anything else!

6th Grade - Slime Time

Theme Ideas: Plastic Containers, Plastic Table Clothes, Zip Lock Bags, Glue, Shaving Cream, Saline Solution, Glitter, Sequence, Food Coloring, Baking Soda, & Liquid Starch...or anything else!

Teachers/Adults/Parents - Gift Cards

Theme Ideas: Gift cards to any place you choose. The possibilities are endless!

Strawberry Festival

Saturday June 9th 10am- 2pm

Volunteers Needed



Emerson Williams Families and Staff:

Please volunteer to help out for Strawberry Festival this year! We are excited to bring you inflatables, dunk tank, games and prizes, a HUGE raffle, cake walk game, photo booth, face painting, and food!

Time	Check to Volunteer
Set Up- 8-10	
9:45 – 11:00	
11:00- 12:00	
12:00 - 1:00	
1:00 - 2:00	

Location	Check to Volunteer
	Check to volunteer
Anywhere that	
needs help	
Specific Location	(write in preferred location)
•	

PLEASE RETURN BY MAY 31ST

Name:	
Email address:	
Phone Number: _	

Once you sign up you will receive an email from signupgenius.com with confirmation of your volunteer assignment.

Questions? Please contact Colleen Mattatall at strawberry.fest@ewpto.com or 860-490-8760



Please join us for a family fun event on

2018 Food

Menu:

Pizza, Hot

Dogs, and

Drinks!

Saturday, 6/9/2018

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Emerson-Williams Elementary School, Wethersfield CT No Pets Allowed

Available Now through 6/5/18 \$5 per child, adults are FREE, max \$10 per family

2018 Food Menu: Snacks, Candy, and of course... Strawberries!



	/18 at the entrance for \$5 per child, max \$15 per family.)
Yes, I want to p	ourchase Strawberry Festival wristbands for my children, in advance, for a discounted price!
Student Nam	ne:
Teacher:	Grade:
Number of W	Vristbands (for children only):
Amount Enclosed (\$	5 per child/\$10 max per family in advance.): \$

Please return the bottom portion of this flyer, Attn: SF Pre-Sale, to Emerson-Williams by Tuesday, 6/5/2018 with cash or check payable to EWPTO.

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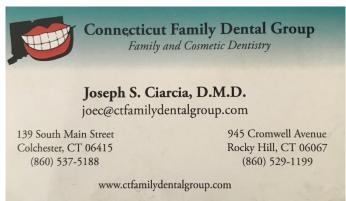


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Help Raise Funds With The Trinity Solar Stewardship Program

EWPTO has partnered with Trinity Solar - a highly reputable, family owned company that helps homeowners take control of their electric bills by switching to solar. Trinity has grown into the largest privately held residential solar company in the nation. Through **Trinity Solar's Stewardship Program**, we're raising money for a range of things at Emerson-Williams in 2018 - including the Courtyard Renovation and additional items for the classrooms!

The courtyard is the outdoor area enclosed behind the EW gym, media center, classrooms, and a hallway; it is in the center of the school. Long ago, the courtyard had been made beautiful by a wonderful Girl Scout Troop, but time and weather has changed it and EWPTO would like to help make it beautiful again. With your help, we can make it a place where all teachers, staff, and students can enjoy it throughout every school year and maintain it.

Trinity's Stewardship program is the best way to raise money for EWPTO- all of our members can contribute. Trinity Solar will donate \$100 to EWPTO with every qualified appointment* that is created through this program.

Raise \$1,000 for EWPTO any time you or a fellow PTO member goes solar with Trinity.

Not a homeowner? No worries! Become an Ambassador to earn \$500 for EWPTO and \$500 for yourself when someone referred outside of EWPTO goes solar with Trinity.

For any questions, please feel free to reach out to Monika Shoham at 860-992-2959 or monikashoham@gmail.com.

*Full details and to see if you qualify, go to www.trinity-solar.com/ewe

MARKYOUR CALENDAR!!

EW'S 2ND ANNUAL COLOR RUN-CATUR DAY

SEPTEMBER 8TH

VOLUNTEERS WANTED!
REACH OUT TO AUTUMN STRUK:
860-209-4344
AUTUMN.STRUK@GMAIL.COM