

**2011-2012 PTO
MEETING
SCHEDULE**

December 8
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

NOVEMBER 2011

From the Principal's Desk

Elizabeth T. Catarius

Our Veterans Day celebration was a huge success, and over 50 veterans attended. They were very moved by the songs, poems and essays. The students were quite impressed when the Honor Guards presented the colors. Representative Russell Morin was able to attend for the afternoon assembly, and Anne Kelly from the Rocky Hill Veterans' Home was also able to attend and accept the students' essays and Medals of Honor for the veterans at the Veterans' Home. Ms Fox, music and choral teacher, initiated and coordinated our two assemblies. We appreciate all the help from PTO members and teachers that donated their time and energy to make this day so memorable.

During the month of November, Dr. McDowell, the Superintendent of Schools, honors students, parent volunteers and staff members by presenting Recognition Awards. This year's recipients are: grade six students Amanda Gilbert and Nate Sommers, parent volunteer Mrs. Paula Heinzmann and staff member Gretchen Tomaro. Congratulations to all of the aforementioned honorees.

As the weather is getting colder, it is suggested that your child come well prepared to go outside for recess. We try to get out as many days as we can, and if your child has gloves, a warm coat and a hat, the experience will be much more enjoyable for them.

I hope you all have a great Thanksgiving.



It's Almost Here!!!



Are you ready? The Holiday Store/Vendor Fair combined event will be here before you know it! As a reminder, we are combining the very popular Holiday Store with our annual Vendor Fair on Wednesday, November 30. Now parents can do some holiday shopping of their own while waiting for the kids to finish shopping.

If you are not familiar with the Holiday Store, it is a students-only shopping experience where children can purchase gifts for family and loved ones in a safe environment and at a reasonable cost. Each gift costs only \$2 and includes gift wrapping. Our "elves" have been hard at work to make sure that there are plenty of great gift options to choose. If you would like to join in the fun as a volunteer, please contact Lauren Barbara at 860-665-9448 or at snl0617@att.net. You won't regret it—this is one of the highlights of the whole year!

We will be holding the Vendor Fair in the cafeteria while the Holiday Store is taking place in the gym. More than twenty vendors have signed up already, with more expressing interest every day! You will be able to browse lots of available products for holiday gift giving. Interested in participating as a vendor? Contact Alicia Schenkel at 860-985-6919 or Kathleen Peacock at 860-461-8683.

The Holiday Store will run from 5:00–7:30 and the Vendor Fair will run from 5:00–8:30. See you then!

PTO Highlights

Wow, what a month it has been! As we head into Thanksgiving, there is one thing we can all be grateful for ... electricity! But in all seriousness, we would like to take a moment to reflect on some of the things we are thankful for.

We are thankful for the wonderful teachers and staff who teach and care for our children. We truly appreciate all their hard work and dedication.

We are also thankful for Paula Heinzmann, past PTO Co-President and recipient of this year's Superintendent's parent volunteer award for Emerson-Williams. If you are reading this, your child has benefited from Paula's efforts.

Finally, we are thankful for you! The PTO could not function without all your contributions of time and participation in school fundraisers and events.

One of our favorite events of the year is coming up soon ... the Holiday Store. We hope that every child has a chance to volunteer for this amazing event. It is really something special to witness as the students carefully look for just the perfect gifts for all their loved ones and excitedly wait in line for their treasures to be gift wrapped. We understand that sometimes it is difficult to be patient while waiting for the kids to finish shopping, so to that end ... we have combined the Holiday Store with the Vendor Fair! Now you can browse for gifts while your children do the same.

Thanks again for all you do, and as always, feel free to let us know if you have any suggestions or feedback.

Regards,

Andrea Ginter, 2nd Year Co-President
Martin Malicki, 1st Year Co-President

Mark Your Calendars!

Take a look at what is coming up:

Tuesday, 11/22	Fall Picture Re-Takes
Wednesday, 11/23	Spirit Day: Slipper Day
Wednesday, 11/30	Holiday Shopping Store/Vendor Fair
Friday, 12/2	Winter Choral Concert
Monday, 12/5	Winter Instrumental Concert
Thursday, 12/8	PTO Meeting
Friday, 12/9	Mixed Bags Orders Due
Wednesday, 12/14	Report Cards Distributed
Friday, 12/23	Spirit Day: Hat Day
Saturday, 1/21	Emerson-Williams Night at CT Whale Game
Saturday, 7/28	3rd Annual Golf Tournament



For a full listing of all upcoming events, please visit www.ewpto.com.

Tiger Topics Health Tips

Linda Ciarcia, BSN, RN



DEAR PARENTS,
Thank you to all of the parents who donated clothes to the health office.

I am in need of some additional clothes especially sizes 14-18 girls and boys track pants or sweat pants. If you are able to donate any of these items please Email me at lciarcia@wetherfield.k12.ct.us. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

REMINDER to all sixth grade students:

All students must complete the necessary health assessment and required immunizations prior to **JUNE 1, 2012**. *Students will not be allowed to enter seventh grade in the fall if this information has not been submitted.* If you need the blue State of Connecticut Department of Education Health Assessment form, I will be happy to send you one.

Thanks to all those students who have turned in their physicals already!!

Next year there will be new immunization requirements:

1. 2nd Varicella vaccine [chicken pox]
2. 2nd Measles, Mumps and Rubella [MMR]
3. Adolescent Tdap vaccine [Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis]
4. Meningococcal vaccine

Please check with the pediatrician to make sure these are updated.

CHECK THE LOST AND FOUND! There are lots of boy and girl sweatshirts. It would be helpful to put your child's name or initials in the jackets and lunchboxes. I try to return them to the kids if their name or initials are there.



School Picture Retakes

Do you enjoy writing? Would you like to volunteer but never seem to be available when you are needed? We have the solution for you! We are looking for someone to take responsibility for putting together the monthly editions of Tiger Topics. This is a project that can be done from your home, whenever it is most convenient for you—whether that is during the day or late at night. If you are interested or if you would like more information, contact Andrea Ginter at andrea.ginter@gmail.com. Thanks!

If you were not 100% thrilled with your child's school pictures, you may have them retaken on Tuesday, November 22. Remember to send your child in with the original pictures on retake day. And remember, there is no risk—if the retakes don't work out, you can always go back to your originals. Questions? Contact Michele Lavoie at dancewme430@cox.net. Thanks!



Save the Date!

Our 3rd Annual Emerson-Williams Golf Tournament to benefit the Playscape Fund will take place on Saturday, July 28, 2012 at the Blue Fox Run Golf Course in Avon, CT. The tournament will begin at 1:00pm and will be followed by a buffet dinner. As in past years, we will have lots of wonderful prizes awarded. We will have a dinner only option for non-golfers who would like a chance at the raffle prizes. How can you help? Put the date on your calendar now, and plan to join us on the course!

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 for more information



Mixed Bag Dates: *Cash and Carry* – Wednesday, November 30, 2011 (Profit 50%)
Online Fundraiser – Monday, Nov. 21 – Friday, Dec. 9th (Profit 40%)

Fundraiser ID: 76123

EW PTO would like to present to you this opportunity to help both the environment and our PTO. A variety of recyclable bags will be available to purchase and take home on Tuesday, Nov. 30 during Vendor Night. These bags are available in an array of vibrant colors and convenient sizes, perfect to meet all your needs.

If you can't make it to Vendor Night, or you just can't wait to place an order, please visit www.mixedbagdesigns.com and click on "Online Store". At checkout, when you review and submit your order, you will be asked for your **Fundraiser ID (76123)**, enter it to give credit to our fundraiser. Orders will be sent to the address you provide and will arrive in time for Dec. 25 if placed by Dec. 9th.

EW PTO will receive 50% profit on all bags purchased at Vendor Night and 40% profit when ordered online. Please feel free to pass along this information, and our **Fundraiser ID (76123)** to all your friends, family and co-workers. Our online fundraiser will begin on Monday, November 21st and end on Friday, December 9th. As always, the EW PTO thanks you for your continued support.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Paula Heinzmann at 860-571-8939 or PaulaPTO@yahoo.com
Janet Vasel at 860-721-7090 or ajavasel@cox.net

Thank you!

Playscape Update

"Project: Genesis" - A New Beginning
Emerson-Williams Playscape Replacement

Dear Parents,

As most of you are aware, we were informed a little over 2 years ago, that the main Emerson-Williams playscape is going to need to be replaced. As of this past May, we are within 1 1/2 years of that time line as laid out by the Parks and Recreation Supervisor Marty Sitler. Marty's background, aside from being our Town P&R Supervisor, includes being a Nationally Certified Playground Inspector. So, it's crunch time.

As you also know, the PTO started exclusive fundraisers to assist in raising funds for the playscape replacement (Annual Golf Tournament, Night at Rita's, etc), as well as earmarking a percentage of funds from our normal fund raising efforts to add to the playscape fund. Currently, we have approximately \$20,000 saved for the project. However, we are still not done. The Playscape Committee and Miracle Recreation came up with a proposal to install an \$80,000 playscape at our school. I don't think I need to do the math for you, but we are still a ways off our goal.

In an effort to make the playscape a reality before the structure actually has to be torn down, we have decided to divide the playscape into phases, which will be more affordable and something that will serve our immediate need. Phase 1 will be the largest cost and will cost roughly \$40,000-\$45,000. This is our main focus for this year, and if we can raise this money - barring any unforeseeable roadblocks with the Town, our goal is to break ground in August of 2012, just in time for the 2012-2013 school year. I have been talking with the State of Connecticut in search of grant money, and I have been able to get attention from Representative Morin and Senator Fonfara at this point. There is no guarantee that there will be any grant money available to us, so I do not want to give any false hope. But, it is a start. I have also filled out other grant applications including one from Miracle Recreation and Lowe's to name a few. We are guaranteed some money from Miracle Recreation, but how much I do not know.



My goal of this article is to make you aware that the Playscape Committee is working extremely hard to make this a reality, and have it happen very soon so as many of our students that are in the school can enjoy the playscape. We are almost there, and we will ask you to help us again in 2011-2012 to support all of the PTO fundraisers, as well as the exclusive playscape fundraisers. We intend on having a few more exclusive fundraisers, and those will be named in the upcoming months when we have more details of how they will work. The Golf Committee is already in "full swing" planning the 2012 Golf Tournament, so don't be surprised if you start seeing and hearing the PTO talking about it, or seeing literature around the school on it. The Golf Tournament can easily raise over 50% of the additional funds needed if we have a stronger turn out, as well as more sponsors helping us.

In closing, the Playscape Committee and I would like to thank everyone who has supported the Golf Tournament the past two years, as well as all of our fund raising efforts. Without our Emerson-Williams families contributing their time and money to our PTO events, there are a lot of things our children would not have. I have only been part of this school community for 3 years, and I have seen so many wonderful things that the PTO has done for my two boys, and all our kids. I will continue to keep everyone aware of our progress with "Project: Genesis" as things unfold, even if it is not so good news. However, I am extremely optimistic that we will at least be able to get Phase I in place, and simply add on the additional Phase II and III in the future.

Sincerely,

Paul LaPerriere
Emerson-Williams Playscape Chairperson

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 Resurfer
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			\$12.00*		
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.

Artist Recognition

Congratulations to Rebecca Papoosha and Alex Chodorowski, both in grade 5. Their art work was chosen to represent Emerson-Williams School in the Wethersfield Chamber of Commerce/ Wethersfield Public School Youth Art appreciation Program. Rebecca's artwork will be displayed at the Wethersfield Public Library and Alex's artwork will be displayed at TLC Pediatric Dentistry.



Don't forget to start 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 for a complete list of participating products.

Community Update

Check your mail! You may be one of the randomly selected Wethersfield households receiving a survey from Wethersfield Early Readiness Council about Community Connectedness, a key component of our plan. If you receive a survey, PLEASE fill it out and return it. Thanks!

Holiday Gift Cards

Need to pick up some gift cards for the holidays? We can help! Keep your eye out for an order form in the coming days. You will be able to purchase a variety of gift cards without going out to all the different store locations, and you will be helping the PTO at the same time!

Thanks to Our 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
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The Jones Group
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<http://www.preyco.com/>

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

Schneider Financial Group
<http://www.sfgtaxes.com/>

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

A Family Concert from
Our Friends at Webb ...

Webb's 1st Ever
Family Rock & Roll Concert

featuring

Jeff Pitchell/Texas Flood
Kid's Tunes & Classic Rock

Friday, November 18th, 6:30-8:00pm
Webb Elementary School Auditorium

\$5.00 per person (\$20.00 family max.) - Advanced Ticket Price
(\$6.00 per person at the Door)

Come Early...5:30pm-6:15pm
"Make Your Own Sundae" Bar, \$2.00 each
(\$3.00 each at the Door)

Everyone's Invited!
Bring your family & friends.

DRESS LIKE A ROCK STAR!!!

For Advanced Ticket Sales Contact:
Paula Buonopane, 860-257-1836, emailroad@gmail.com &
Staci Lynch, 860-529-0225, sla610@aol.com



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