

# Tiger Topics

## September, 2009

*School Newsletter*

# EMERSON-WILLIAMS

461 Wells Road, Wethersfield, CT

860-563-9638 or 860-571-8360

### 2009-2010 PTO

#### MEETING DATES:

(ALL PTO MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE UPPER MEDIA CENTER AT 7PM)

- October 8, 2009
- November 12, 2009
- December 10, 2009
- January 14, 2010
- February 11, 2010
- March 11, 2010
- April 8, 2010
- May 13, 2010
- June 10, 2010

**If you haven't yet signed up for P.E.N.S (Parent Email Notification System), please go online to our website and do so! Signing up will mean less paperwork sent home, and will help Emerson Williams do our part to save the environment!**

Please send topics or suggestions for the next issue of Tiger Topics to Kathy Zapor at zapkat@cox.net by Friday, October 9th.

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

ELIZABETH T. CATARIUS

It was a smooth start to the opening of school and the students seem to have adjusted well. We had a school wide assembly on Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, to introduce any new staff and to acknowledge each classroom and teacher. We also discussed the Six Pillars of Character (Caring, Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness and Citizenship) and described each Pillar and its meaning. The Six Pillars and the activities revolving around them will be incorporated into the fabric of our school life.

The Connecticut Mastery Tests are administered to grades 3-6 every spring, and the results for 2009 arrived in July. Families received their child's individual test results during the first week in September. The results reported in the table are for students **at or above the goal**.

	Reading	Math	Writing	Science (Grade 5 only)
Grade 3	78.4%	82.7%	69.2%	
Grade 4	72.6%	79.4%	70.8%	
Grade 5	79.5%	77.9%	83.9%	64%
Grade 6	90.2%	88.2%	70.6%	

We made great gains in many areas, especially in reading in grade 3 with a 30 point increase over the spring 2008 scores. When compared to the results of the 159 towns that reported their grade 3 reading scores, Emerson-Williams grade 3 score in reading was #17 out of all the 159 towns in Connecticut. Other significant gains in reading and math were made at other grade levels. Overall, we made gains in 9 out of the 13 areas measured. All the staff and students at Emerson-Williams should be commended for their effort. However, we still have work to do in many areas, most notably in the area of writing.

Finally, the students in grades 1-6 are now having recess before lunch. Research has shown that students finish more of their lunch and are better behaved when recess occurs before lunch. There have been a few adjustments that have had to be made, but, overall, the teachers are very happy with the results. By having recess before lunch, the children are ready to learn when they come back from lunch. In addition, Mrs. Ciarcia, our school nurse, reports that the number of students that she would usually see during the lunch wave has dropped dramatically. Mr. Nelson, our head custodian, also reports that he is throwing away far less trash (and therefore less food) than in the past. Please be assured that every child is able to finish his or her lunch.

I know that I speak for all of the staff when I express my wish that each child has a successful school year at Emerson-Williams School.



## IMPORTANT DATES

<b><u>September</u></b>	<b><u>November</u></b>
23 Dinner on the Lawn 5-7pm	3 NO SCHOOL—Professional Development
24 Dinner on the Lawn (Rain Date) 5-7pm	11 NO SCHOOL—Veteran’s Day
<b><u>October</u></b>	12 PTO Meeting—7 pm
8 PTO Meeting—7 pm	16 Picture Retake Day—Smile again!
12 NO SCHOOL—Columbus Day	17 Early Dismissal—Parent Conferences
14 Picture Day—Smile!	18 Early Dismissal—Parent Conferences
21 Creative Arts Program, Grades K-3 8:50am	19 Early Dismissal—Parent Conferences
31 Box Tops Deadline	25 Early Dismissal—Thanksgiving Holiday
	26-27 NO SCHOOL—Thanksgiving Holiday



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express®**

### Congratulations Emerson Williams Elementary School

As of 08/26/2009 our school has earned a total of 137,200 Education Express points.

Exciting news to welcome you to the new school year: Big Y stores are offering **DOUBLE POINTS** on all specially marked items starting September 3rd through September 30, 2009.

### Quick and Easy Sign Up for Parents

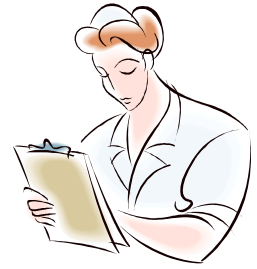
School is beginning and we know your time is limited. The following is a link to help you get signed up for the Big Y Education Express Program. Please check your receipts to confirm that they have our school designated to receive the points.

Just click here at <http://register.bigyeductionexpress.com/Default.aspx?sid=5880&t=c>

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the program please contact Big Y at: 1-800-599-9017 or [questions@bigyeductionexpress.com](mailto:questions@bigyeductionexpress.com).

## TIGER TOPICS HEALTH TIPS

BY LINDA CIARCIA, RN, BSN



DEAR PARENTS and KIDS,  
Welcome back to all! Thank you for getting all of the physical forms and medication forms in to me. Any changes during the year please let me know.

### **REMINDER to all sixth grade students:**

All students must complete the necessary health assessment and required immunizations prior to ***JUNE 1, 2010***. ***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.

We have several children with nut allergies this year. Letters have been sent out to the classes who have those children as students. Please be sure not to send items with nuts when sending in foods or snacks for those classes.

### ***An exciting new initiative is coming to elementary schools this Fall!***

September 21-25, 2009 has been deemed **P.A.C.K Week: Pack Assorted Colors for Kids Week**. This national healthy-eating initiative will encourage kids to consume more fruits and vegetables. 96% of kids fall short of the recommended two to five cups per day of fruits and vegetables.

Each day of P.A.C.K. week has been assigned a different color and parents/guardians will be encouraged to send their children to school with a lunch or snack item from the designated color group each day. **Since all forms count-fresh, died, canned, frozen, and 100% juice- it is easier than ever to include more fruits and vegetables in children's diets.**

Monday, September 21- Pack **Purple** Day  
Tuesday, September 22- Pack **white** Day  
Wednesday, September 23- Pack **Red** Day  
Thursday, September 24- Pack **Yellow/Orange** Day  
Friday, September 25- Pack **Green** Day

If you would like, you can wear the color of the day that week as well. So please join in on this fun week.

September is childhood cancer awareness month. The objective of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month is to spotlight childhood cancer and survivorship issues related to childhood cancer nationally. CureSearch is dedicated to leading the way in advocacy and fundraising for childhood cancer research and awareness. Please visit the website, [www.curesearch.org](http://www.curesearch.org) and get involved in any way that you can.



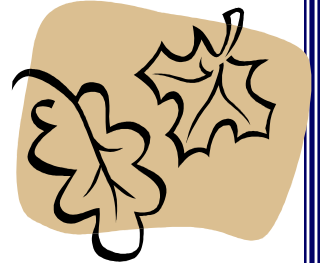
# Fun Fundraisers!

## *Genevieve's Fall Fundraiser*

Our Fall Fundraiser is on till September 23rd. This first fundraiser of the year secures the basis for ongoing extra-curriculum activities like High-Touch High-Tech, Field Trips, Author Visits, Creative Art Support, etc. 40 - 50 % of this fundraiser benefit the school PTO budget.

Thank you for considering placing an order! Please Participate!

Contact Sue Breglio @ 529-0626 [sbreglio@cox.net](mailto:sbreglio@cox.net) or  
Martina Cacioli @ 257-4773 [miketinacacioli@att.net](mailto:miketinacacioli@att.net)



## *Coming Soon—Entertainment Books!*

Beginning October 1, we will be having an Entertainment Book fundraiser. The 2010 edition of the Entertainment Book includes several updates, including coupons for Stew Leonard's, Hops and T.G.I. Friday's. You'll find that the Entertainment Book pays for itself many times over. Stay tuned for more updates soon! Questions? Contact Andrea Ginter @ 529-4939.

## *Comedy Night*

Comedy Night has been such a success in the past couple of years, that we're bringing it back with all new talent! Come join us for a night of side-splitting laughter, featuring the comedy of **Jim McCue** on Friday, November 13th at the Community Center.

Tickets for this adults only event will be available at the door for \$25 each, or plan ahead and save: tickets sold prior to November 1st will be \$22 each. Want to save even more? Get a group of friends together and purchase a table of 8 tickets for only \$20 each.

Comedy Night, as in years past, is BYO—food and beverages, and we will again be featuring a raffle with some wonderful prizes.

All proceeds from this event will go towards purchasing a SMART Board for our students.

Please contact Michele Lavoie @ 944-6765 [dancewme430@cox.net](mailto:dancewme430@cox.net) or Kathy Zapor @ 235-6298 [zapkat@cox.net](mailto:zapkat@cox.net) for tickets or questions.





**EMERSON WILLIAMS  
 SCRAPBOOK DAY FUNDRAISER  
 SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2009  
 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
 WETHERSFIELD H.S. CAFETERIA**

Mark your calendars now to join us for an all day scrapbooking event to help benefit your school! We're offering hours of uninterrupted album making time to sit down and work on your albums, check out the newest product releases, enjoy the day with friends and earn money for your school! What can be better than that?!

We will have product on hand to purchase and a portion of the proceeds will go directly to Emerson Williams. The Fee for the day is \$25 which includes a Pizza Lunch and water. Bring a snack to share and earn a raffle ticket! We have FABULOUS PRIZES to raffle off – products and services donated by local businesses (for example: Wooden Tap, Blades, Village Pizza, Alta Moda and much much more). Raffle tickets will also be sold at the event. SPACE IS LIMITED so reserve your seat TODAY! Please contact Michelle Bosco at 257-7140 or Iris Strong at 667-0228 with any questions.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: IRIS STRONG

**PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN WITH PAYMENT IN AN ENVELOPE MARKED:  
 SCRAPBOOK FUNDRAISER, ATTN. MICHELLE BOSCO**

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EMERSON WILLIAMS SCRAPBOOK DAY FUNDRAISER

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER ATTENDING: \_\_\_\_\_