



From the Principal's Desk

Ms. Neela Thakur

I hope you all had a wonderful summer and I also hope all of your children are having an excellent start to the 2014 - 2015 school year. There is a great energy in our building this year and our students and teachers are already working so hard. This summer, I spent a lot of time relaxing with my family, and writing some poems. I wrote one poem especially for the parents of our incoming kindergarten students. This poem is basically my welcome letter to them. My poem is entitled, "welcome home." I wanted to also share it with all of you, because it really does apply to how I feel about you and your children as well. I hope you like it, and that it gives you a little taste of what I stand for as your child's Principal. Buckle your seat belts; we are in store for an exciting ride together this year!

Sincerely,

Neela Thakur, Principal

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welcome home

this first gesture of letting go
involves gently, tenderly
placing their little hands in ours

you may tread very lightly, at first
we are strangers to you, now
but this is your new home

you don't yet know
the hallways, rooms
playgrounds, policies, procedures

more importantly
you don't yet know the people
within this home
who will love your children
care for your children
keep your children safe
teach them
and inspire them to
love life
love learning
love this world we live in
love

so please consider this:

in this new home
you will find
mothers, fathers
grandparents, aunts, uncles

we are here because
we choose to be
we are here because
we have so much
love in our hearts
passion in our souls
knowledge in our brains
these things are
overflowing

we want to share them with
the little ones
you love

for the next seven years
this will be our shared home

we will work
side by side
to grow young children into
young adolescents
who are comfortable
living
in the power of approximation
who are comfortable
taking risks
making mistakes
who can
think for themselves
do for themselves
advocate for themselves

in your new home
we will raise children
who truly understand the
meanings of the words
verve
grit
compassion
these are the
pillars
that hold our house up strong

you will all love it here,
under our roof

trust us

welcome home

Neela Thakur, principal, 9.2.14

Message from the Presidents....

Hello Emerson-Williams Families!

For those of you who are new to Emerson-Williams, welcome to our community and family. We are sure that you will like it here and look forward to meeting all of you. For those of you returning, welcome back and get ready for another fun-filled year with the Emerson-Williams PTO.

The Book Store begins next week and will go on thru Friday. Be sure to check the Emerson-Williams PTO website for all the details of times and days. We are looking for volunteers to help throughout the week at the Book Store in hour increments, so if you have an hour or two to spare please help us by volunteering so the children can get the books they would like. Contact Darka Jara or sign up on the sign-up sheet. Also, Open House is next week as well on Tuesday and Wednesday. The PTO will also be holding their membership drive both nights, and will be located inside the main entrance by the gym. All of the details about Open House and the Book Fair, as mentioned, are on the PTO website.

This year we encourage you to check our Facebook page, as well as our website for up to date announcements, reminders, and general information throughout the year. We have lots of new features on the website, including linking the school calendar with your smart phone (instructions are on the website on how to do this), as well as all of our sign-up sheets for the PTO functions. We have also added a suggestion section that will get your ideas to us, as we are always looking to improve upon the way we do things. Please feel free to use this as a way to offer new ideas of fundraisers, or suggestions on how an event went and could get better.

We hope you are ready to have some fun this year. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me or Nathalie. We will be sure to get back to you as quickly as possible. Enjoy the rest of Tiger Topics!

Paul LaPerriere - 2nd Year Co-President
Nathalie Trevitazzo - 1st Year Co-President

"We never know the love of parents until we become parents ourselves!"

2014-2015 PTO Meeting Schedule

7:00pm Upper Media Center

October 9 • November 13 • December 11 • January 8 • February 12 • March 12
April 9 • May 14 • June 11

Important Notices

Suggestion Box: The EWPTO website has now incorporated a suggestion box as well as an email address that parents can use EXCLUSIVELY to make suggestions about potential fundraisers or special events that they'd like their children to experience. We need NEW and fresh ideas of ways to raise funds for our programs as well as bring our families together for fun activities. Please take a moment and review the website or email us with your thoughts. We really appreciate it! Also, please bear in mind that this is made available for suggestions about NEW events and not to exchange ideas or recommend changes to existing fundraisers/activities. If you'd like to lend a hand with current events, please join us at our next PTO meeting! Thank you all so much.

<http://www.ewpto.com/suggestionbox.html>

SuggestionBox@ewpto.com

Address Directory Flyer: Unfortunately, on the Address Directory flyer, there was a typo in the email address. If you emailed your information for the directory, please check that the email address was correct. The correct email is: jlaperriere.pto@gmail.com.

From the Music Department: Our instrumental music teacher, Ms. Emily Caravella, has developed a website for parents to use in order to get updates on their child's instrumental activities. To view the website, please go to www.emersonwilliamsbandstrings.weebly.com. Parents of children not currently in this music program can find information and are welcome to reach out to Ms. Caravella at any time.

Please email any "important notices" in text or Microsoft Word format to tigertopics@ewpto.com.

From the Music Department

2014 2015 MUSIC PERFORMANCES

November:

Monday the 10th [*Day D*] Veterans Thank You Assembly for invited guests
Grades 1, 3, 4, 6 - 9:30 AM
Grades K, 2, 5 - 1:30 PM

December

Tuesday the 2nd [*Day A*] School wide Winter Concert Rehearsal Assembly
Grades K to 6 9:30 [Dec 9 storm date]

Friday the 12th [*Day A*] Winter Concert

Grades K to 3 at 9:30AM

Grades 4 to 6 at 1:15 PM [Storm date for 9:30 and 1:15 **Dec. 19**]

Tuesday the 23rd [*Day D*] School Wide Assembly

January

TBD - FESTIVAL rehearsals start; date, times and locations TBD

February

TBD - 4th Grade Band and Orchestra Informances

March

MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS Month

TBD - UA Principal's Breakfast

April

TBD - FESTIVAL performance [performances on 2 consecutive days]

Friday the 17th - 7:00PM Band, Orchestra and Chorus volunteers to perform at WolfPack [*Day B*]

May

Thursday the 7th - School wide concert Assembly [*Day D*]

Thursday the 21st - 7:00 PM Spring Concert: 5, 6 Chorus; Band, Orchestra [*Day B*]

June

Tuesday the 2nd - 4th Grade Music Across America Presentation [*Day C*]

Friday the 12th - School Wide Flag Day Assembly [*Day A*]

Dates and times subject to change

Looking for information? Check www.ewpto.com for links to school and PTO forms, events, fundraisers, Tiger Topics, lunch menus and the digital backpack (online copies of the school-wide notices that come home with your child each week).

Please check us out and “LIKE US” on Facebook!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- Book Fair (Upper Media Center) – Wednesday September 17th at 6:00 PM
- Book Fair (Upper Media Center) – Thursday September 18th at 3:00 PM
- Cove Side Carnival (Cove Park in Wethersfield) – October 17th – 19th

Box Tops for Education

Box Tops for Education has helped America’s schools earn over \$400 million since 1996. You can earn cash for Emerson-Williams by clipping Box Tops coupons from hundreds of participating products. Box Tops also offers online ways to earn even more cash for Emerson-Williams.

Check out www.btfе.com for a list of participating products, as well as online earning opportunities.

Advice

from EW teachers to our students on how to have a successful school year:

Show up on time, and be prepared.

Play outdoors!

Keep a positive attitude.

Be kind to everyone.

Look for more advice in future issues of Tiger Topics!

Board of Education

You can find information about the Board of Education’s members, policies, minutes and schedule for upcoming meetings by visiting their website:

<http://www.wethersfield.k12.ct.us/page.cfm?p=1643>

Target: Help Us Help Our School

There's an easy way to help us raise money for our school –for books, reading programs and anything else that can use extra funding. It's called Take Charge of Education, and it's helping our school right now. It's great for you too! REDcard holders receive a 5% discount on purchases, and free shipping on Target.com orders. Visit Target.com/tcoe or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate our school, then use your REDcard whenever you shop. When you use your REDcardSM (Target® Visa® Credit Card, Target Credit Card® or Target Check Card®), Target will donate up to 1% of your purchases to the eligible K–12 school of your choice. Don't have a REDcard? Apply in person at any Target store or go to Target.com/redcard. Grandparents, alumni, friends and neighbors are all welcome to participate in the program. The more people we involve, the harder the program works for our school. If you're already participating, thank you! Check out our school's progress anytime at Target.com/tcoe.

Donate Your Unused Coupons

Wethersfield High School student Joseph Sottile is collecting expired and unused manufacturers' coupons to donate to U.S. military families in other countries. Military commissaries overseas accept expired coupons. Last year Joseph received the Board of Education's CABE award and a Youth in Action award for this project. Please drop off your coupon circulars or clipped coupons in the donation box at school, or to Joseph Sottile, in the bin on the front porch at 131 Cider Brook Drive.

Holiday Store

The holidays are right around the corner and we need your help! The holiday store needs wrapping paper every year! Please take this opportunity to donate any unused wrapping paper from last holiday season. Thank you all for making this event such a success! We all appreciate it!

Holiday Store Co-Chairs:
Karen Dicenso or Janet Carbo



Attention United Way Donors!

If you donate to the United Way through your workplace, did you know that you can designate Emerson-Williams PTO as the beneficiary of your donation? If you have any questions or need help, please contact John Kiniry for more information.



Volunteer

If you are interested in heading up one of our PTO committees OR simply want to join a committee to find a way to get involved, please contact Paul LaPerriere or Nathalie Trevitazzo as soon as possible. At the November PTO meeting, we will be assessing the committees that do not have chairs in order to determine if those activities/events will be eliminated. It's so important that we hear from you to make sure the events that your kids love continue to take place. Please go to www.ewpto.com and check out the committee list to see if anything matches your interests.

Babysitters Needed

Calling all E-W families that have High Schoolers: If your students need to pick up some community service time, we have an opportunity for them! Every month we need three babysitters for our PTO meetings. Responsibilities include monitoring school aged children during the meeting and ensuring that the classroom that is used gets left exactly as we found it! To get put on the schedule, please contact Paul LaPerriere at 860-538-3698 or at plaperriere.pto@gmail.com.

Labels for Education

Labels for Education allows our school to earn free merchandise such as athletic, art, music and academic equipment. Just clip and save Labels for Education bar codes from products you use every day, then drop them in the Labels for Education box outside the main office. Labels for Education products include Post, Pepperidge Farm, Campbell's, Dannon, Emerald, Pop Secret and Glad. Check out Labelsforeducation.com for a comprehensive list of participating products. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Koziol (skoziol2011@hotmail.com or 860-529-3562).

Classified

Your advertisement here...

Your advertisement here...

Your advertisement here...

Your advertisement here...

Your advertisement here...

Your advertisement here...



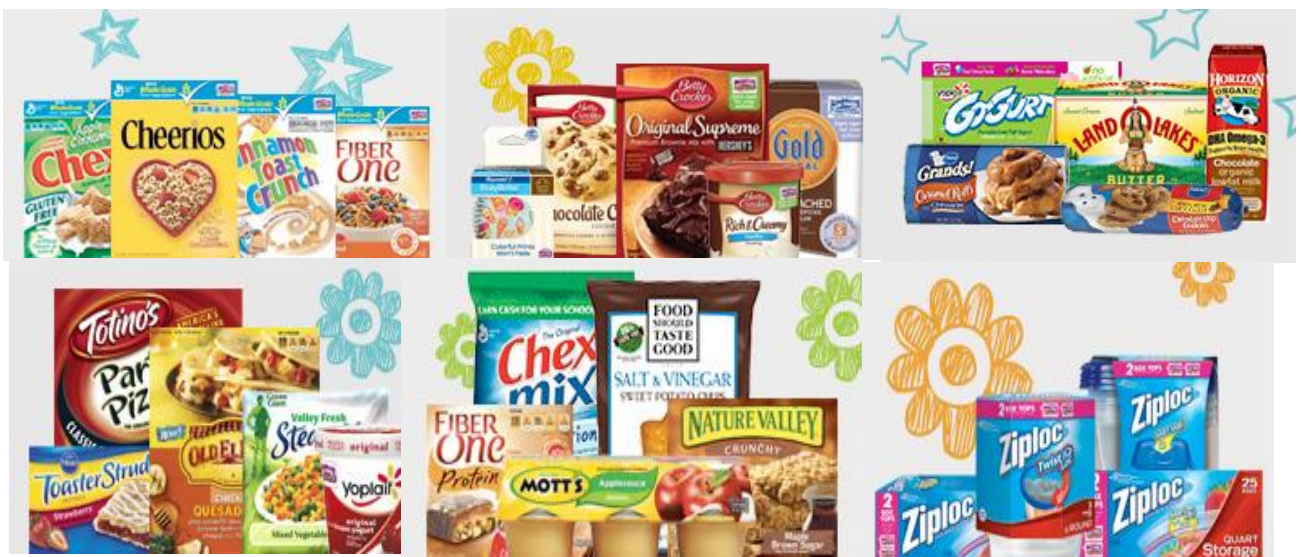
Help Emerson-Williams by clipping Box Tops!

We all shop for groceries, sometimes two or three times a week - or more. Now turn those shopping trips into easy cash for our school, and encourage friends to do the same! Just look for the Box Tops logo on hundreds of products like Cheerios®, Hamburger Helper® and Kleenex®, in almost every aisle of the store. All you need to do is clip and send them to school with your child.

Each one is worth 10¢ for Emerson-Williams!

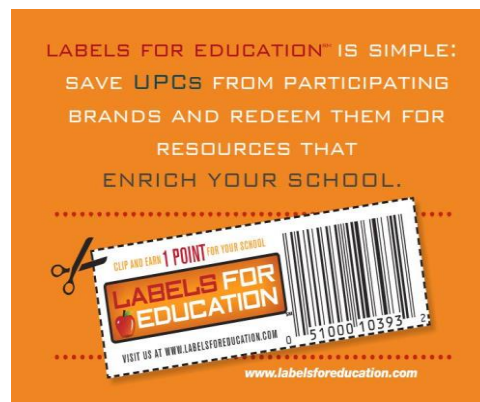
For more details about the Box Tops program, follow the link below.

<http://www.boxtops4education.com>





Clip Labels for Education from Campbell's, Pepperidge Farm, Pop Secret, People Magazine (purchased at newsstands), Emerald Nuts, Glad products, Post Cereals, Dannon Danimals, Dannoninos, and Bic products.



If you cannot find the logo, simply clip the UPC code.

Visit www.labelsforeducation.com for a list of participating products.

Wethersfield Public Library Events

| | |
|--|--|
| Tuesday September 30, 2014 | 6:00pm: LIBRARY CARD PREMIERE PARTY! A "READ" CARPET EVENT Show off your library card in style! Dress to impress – wear your first day of school outfit, flash your library card, and walk the red carpet! Photo ops, refreshments and more. Registration is required |
| Monday September 15, 22 & 29, 2014 October 6, 20, & 27, 2014 November 3, 10 & 17, 2014 | 11:00am: MOTHER GOOSE TIME: storytime for Birth-21 months Stimulating lapsit program. Includes sharing board books, nursery rhymes & bouncing games. Parent participation is key! Registration is required |
| Monday October 6, 20 & 27, November 10, 17 & 24, 2014 | 6:00pm-7:30pm: Family Place PLAY & GROW: Parent-Child Workshops Each week, families can enjoy a stimulating, educational, and fun place to play & visit with resource professionals who will answer questions and provide information about a variety of parenting topics. Registration is required |
| Tuesday October 7, 21 & 28, November 11, 18 & 25, 2014 | 10:30am – 12:00 noon: Family Place PLAY & GROW: Parent-Child Workshops Each week, families can enjoy a stimulating, educational, and fun place to play & visit with resource professionals who will answer questions and provide information about a variety of parenting topics. Registration is required |
| Tuesday September 16, 2014 October 21, 2014 November 18, 2014 | 6:30pm: PIZZA & PAGES: 4th - 6th graders Nutmeg Award Book Discussion Series with a light supper. September Title: Tuesdays at the Castle by Jessica Day George October Title: King of the Mound by Wes Tooke November Title: Walls Within Walls by Maureen Sherry Registration is required |
| Tuesday September 16, 2014 October 14, 2014 November 11, 2014 | 4:00pm: BOOK BASH!: 1st-3rd graders Party and celebrate great authors & series with fun activities. This month, My Weird School! Registration is required |
| Wednesday September 17 & 24, 2014 October 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2014 November 5, 12 & 19, 2014 | 10:30am: BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS: storytime for 3-5 year olds This program is designed to help develop pre-reading skills and to enjoy theme based stories, fingerplays, songs & games. Registration is required |
| Thursday September 18 & 25, 2014 October 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2014 November 6, 13, & 20, 2014 | 10:30am: WEE READ: storytime for 22-35 months Exciting program where toddlers begin to appreciate longer stories & participate in group activities. Parent participation is key! Registration is required |
| Thursday September 18 & 25, 2014 October 2, 9, 16, & 23, 2014 November 6, 13, & 20, 2014 | 6:00pm: READY, SET... READ, MATH, SCIENCE: 4-6 year olds Specially designed activities that make reading, math, or science come alive (topics alternate each week). Registration is required |



EMERSON~WILLIAMS 2014-2015 PTO MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Please support the Emerson-Williams PTO by donating \$7.00 per child or \$10.00 per family. All parents and teachers are welcome and encouraged to attend our monthly PTO meetings to share their thoughts and ideas. Many topics are discussed, including up-coming events and concerns. Becoming a member does not obligate you to attend monthly meetings, but you are always welcome to come listen and share your ideas.

Our meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center.

Our Success cannot continue without your support!
Thank you for your anticipated support of our PTO!

Please return the form below to your child's teacher. Checks can be made payable to:

EMERSON~WILLIAMS PTO
Child(ren) Name (s)

Grade(s)

Teacher(s)

Parent/Guardian Name

Child \$7.00

Family \$10.00

Additional/Other
Donation_____

Thanks to Our Sponsors
