

From the Principal's Desk

Elizabeth T. Catarius



Emerson-Williams

TIGER TOPICS

In spite of Hurricane Irene's affect and the ensuing power outages, we opened school on Thursday, September 1st and welcomed 422 students to Emerson-Williams. It was wonderful to greet our students and hear about their experiences during the ten weeks that they were on vacation.

In addition to welcoming our students, we also welcomed many new staff members to EW. I am providing a short biographical sketch of our new teachers:

Mrs. Katherine Nunn-Grade 2
Mrs. Nunn comes to us after teaching eight years at Hanmer School. Mrs. Nunn has also taught grades three and six. Mrs. Nunn has completed her Master's Degree in elementary Education and is anticipated to complete a second Master's Degree in the spring of 2012 in Special Education from St. Joseph's College. Mrs. Nunn is the recipient of the Delta Kappa Gamma Epsilon International Scholarship (only one of 27 awarded worldwide). Mrs. Nunn resides with her husband and two children, ages nine and six.

Mrs. Kathryn Harris-Grade 3
Mrs. Harris holds a Bachelor of Science from Wheelock College and a Master's Degree from St. Joseph's College. She has taught Kindergarten and transitional first grade in Burlington, CT, and has been a

third grade teacher at Charles Wright School. Mrs. Harris was chosen to be Charles Wright Teacher of the Year for the 2008-2009 school year. Mrs. Harris has been the recipient of the following classroom enhancement grants: Reading Association of Connecticut, Connecticut Geographic Alliance, National Endowment for the Humanities: Picturing America. Mrs. Harris has presented for administrators and teachers at numerous workshops and conferences throughout New England on the subject of mathematics. Mrs. Harris has also served on many district committees.

Mrs. Patricia Marks- Grade 3
Mrs. Marks taught fifth grade for six years at Webb School before coming to Emerson-Williams School. Mrs. Marks holds a Master's Degree from the University of Connecticut and a Sixth- Year Degree from the University of New England. Mrs. Marks has also taught first, second, a second-third combination, fourth grade and sixth grades. Her teaching experiences have occurred globally, as she has taught the aforementioned grades in China, Budapest, Germany, Bucharest, and Romania. Mrs. Marks has also taught in Virginia.

Ms. Joanne Charbonneau-Grade 5
Ms. Charbonneau taught sixth grade for the past seven years at Hanmer School.

Ms. Charbonneau has also taught in Bloomfield at the Metropolitan Learning Center Magnet School of Distinction for International and Global Studies and taught language arts to students in grades six, seven and eight at St. Mary School in Middletown. While at Hanmer, Ms. Charbonneau was the recipient of a Donors Choose. Org grant which provided her with science equipment for her class. Ms. Charbonneau has been involved in numerous community assistance fundraisers and was nominated for Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science teaching. Ms. Charbonneau has a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from the University of Connecticut and a Master's Degree in elementary education from St. Joseph's College.

Mrs. Rita Heinze- Special Education Grades 4-6
Mrs. Heinze has taught special education in Wethersfield for the last 26 years. She has been a staff member at Highcrest, Charles Wright, Wethersfield High School and Emerson-Williams School. Mrs. Heinze has a Bachelor's Degree in Special Education from Southern Connecticut State University and a Master's Degree in Special Education from Central Connecticut State University.

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2011-2012 PTO Meeting Schedule

October 13	March 8
November 10	April 12
December 8	May 10
January 12	June 14
February 9	

From the Principal's Desk (cont'd from page 1)

We welcome all of our new teaching staff to Emerson-Williams. In addition to our teachers, please join me in welcoming Mr. George Carmaco, paraprofessional and Mrs. Tracy Ryan, lunch aide. Mr. Carmaco comes to us from Webb School where he worked as a paraprofessional, and Mrs. Ryan also comes to us from Webb School where she worked as a computer lab assistant.

Also, please join me in congratulating Mrs. Pamela Jones, grade 1 teacher, who is our 2011-2012 Teacher of the Year.

Finally, I know that the staff and I are very excited about the implementation of our Language Arts curriculum and the focus on Reader's and Writer's workshop. The primary goal of Reader's Workshop is to have your child reading volumes of books. The research is irrefutable in regard to the correlation between the time spent reading and the increase of one's reading ability. We want you child to read books at his or her independent level(books that are "just right" for them to read without assistance or instruction). Books are chosen with guidance from the teacher, and

students are given choice in the selection of these books. There are many ways that you can encourage your child to become successful in reading: read and model your own reading behavior, talk to your children about books and provide a quiet time every night for your child to read.

The staff and I look forward your child having a most successful year filled with the joy of learning.

PTO Highlights

"One hundred years from now, it will not matter what kind of car I drove, what kind of house I lived in, how much money was in my bank account nor what my clothes looked like. But the world may be a better place because I was important in the life of a child." This quote by Forest Witcraft fits our E-W family very well. Not only are the teachers and staff important in your child's education, but so are you. From helping with homework to volunteering at school

events, you are in a position to profoundly impact your child's educational experience.

We were delighted to see so many new faces at September's PTO meeting, and we hope to see you at the October 13 meeting. We encourage you to take the time this year to get involved with the PTO—even if only for a few hours. We have many different types of volunteer opportunities, surely one will fit your interests.

This fall is filled with activities for the students and families. Read on for details about many of our upcoming events, and also stay informed by visiting www.ewpto.com for the latest updates.

We hope you have a wonderful school year, and as always, please feel free to contact us with any suggestions you may have. Thanks!

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

Mark Your Calendars!

Wednesday, 9/21	6th Grade Committee Meeting
Thursday, 9/22	School Picture Day
Thursday, 9/22	Dinner on the Lawn
Friday, 9/23	Gift Wrap Orders Due
Thursday, 10/13	PTO Meeting
Wednesday, 11/30	Holiday Shopping Store and Vendor Fair combined event



Stop&Shop®

Have you re-registered your Stop & Shop card to help earn cash for Emerson-Williams? This free program helps our school earn money each time you buy groceries. You must register your card EACH school year—so go do it now if you haven't already! Visit www.ewpto.com for the link.

Golf Outing Recap

The 2011 Emerson-Williams 2nd Annual PTO Golf Tournament was held at the beautiful Lyman Orchards Golf Club in Middlefield, CT. Another gem of a day, 2 years in a row, provided excellent playing conditions for the growing field of 40 golfers who attended. This year's tournament raised approximately \$4,000 that will go toward our playscape replacement. Considering the cost to play went up considerably by playing at Lyman Orchards, our committee was very pleased with the results. "Our goal for putting on the tournament is two-fold," said Paul LaPerriere, the Golf Tournament Chairperson. "We want to bring our Emerson-Williams friends and families together for a fun day of golf, food, and great raffle prizes, as well as raise as much money as we can

for the replacement of our playscape. Participation from our school's parents is crucial to the success of our tournament." Our committee would like to thank those businesses that donated all the raffle prizes this year. We would also like to thank all of our tee sponsors who helped bring in over half of the proceeds this year. A special thank you to all of our premium sponsors which include our scoreboard sponsor Schneider Financial and our Golf Cart sponsor People's Bank. We would especially like to thank Rosenberg Orthodontics for offering to be our title sponsor this year as well.

Our tournament has been the PTO's exclusive fundraiser for the playscape replacement. Thus far, in a little over

a year, the PTO has raised approximately \$20,000 to put towards the playscape. This year, the PTO playscape committee is planning on re-evaluating the scope of the project so that an actual live replacement date can be set within the next 1-2 years. The Playscape Committee will be working especially hard this year, to make the installation of a new playscape a reality. We appreciate the continued support of the parents of Emerson-Williams, and your children will enjoy the new playscape even more! Thank you and we hope that the 2012 tournament will be even better and have more participation from our school.

Dinner on the Lawn

You are cordially invited to Dinner on the Lawn this Thursday, September 22 from 5:00pm–7:00pm. Pack a picnic (or grab a pizza), bring chairs or blankets, and come enjoy the fun! Each family is welcome to bring a dessert to share.



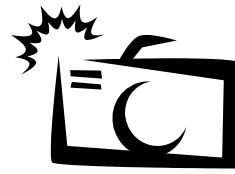
Reminder!

Please remember to return your Jeannine order forms by Friday, September 23. Jeannine has a great selection of gift wrap and many other gift and household items. Thanks for your participation in this important fundraiser! Questions? Call Darka Jara at 860-721-1621.

Have You Sent in Your Directory Form Yet???

Now is the time! Go to www.ewpto.com and click on the "Directory Form" tab to submit your information for the annual school directory. Due to privacy concerns, directory information will not be viewable online. The directory will be distributed in hard copy to each Emerson-Williams family.

Picture Day Is Coming!



School Picture Day is this Thursday, **September 22**. Here are some important details you might not know:

- You can choose from over 100 different "looks" and background options when ordering on-line. Go to www.mylifetouch.com and enter the following as your picture day ID **CT021359Y0** to get started.
- Order on-line and mix and match a different background for each sheet of pictures in your package.
- Packages H through O maybe ordered separately (without ordering a package) or added to any of the packages listed.
- Family Plan - the first 2 packages purchased are regular price. Each additional package ordered by the same family is half-price. Please complete family plan section on the order form.

- Lifetouch has partnered with Shutterfly to help you organize and save your precious memories. When you purchase any Lifetouch portrait package you will receive a coupon with your portraits worth \$20 to spend at Shutterfly.com. Offer valid on one \$20+ order of Shutterfly merchandise. Offer ends January 31, 2012.
- Your order is 100% guaranteed. A retake or full refund will be offered for any reason, if you are not completely happy with your portrait! Please note, retake pictures are risk free. Once you receive the retake portrait, you have the option of choosing either the original or retake portrait to keep.
- If you have any questions or are not completely satisfied with your order, please contact Lisa at Lifetouch at (860)628-3920 ext 15 or by e-mail at LBreutzmann@Lifetouch.com.

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 easy ways to earn even more cash for Emerson-Williams online.

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



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 Andrea Ginter for more information.



Important!

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/Board_of_Ed/boe_members.htm

Health Tips

Linda Ciarcia, BSN, RN

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 parents and students:

All students must complete the necessary health assessment and required immunizations prior to JUNE 1, 2012. *If you had a physical done this summer hand it in now. 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.

I am in need of elastic waist shorts or track pants in sizes 10-18 children's for both boys and girls. If anyone has cleaned out their children's closets and would like to donate these items to the Health Office, that would be greatly appreciated.

September is childhood 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 and get involved in any way that you can.

Important PTO Updates

- If you are interested in heading up one of our PTO committees, please contact Andrea Ginter or Martin Malicki as soon as possible. At the October PTO meeting, we will be assessing the committees that do not have chairs in order to determine if those activities/events will be eliminated. As much as we would love to "do it all", we have a limited number of volunteers. So please, go to www.ewpto.com and check out the committee list to see if anything matches your interests.
- David Schroeder, PTO Treasurer, has proposed that the PTO change its fiscal year from July 1–June 30 to August 1–July 31. As per the by-laws, a vote on this proposal will take place at the October 13 PTO meeting. If you have any questions, please contact David at 860-563-1492 or at treasurer@ewpto.com.

Thanks ...

Thank you to Angela Tollis, Rosanna D'Onofrio, Erin Nock and Martin Malicki for helping the first graders acclimate to the lunchtime routine during the first few days of school.

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make our Scholastic Book Fair a success: Cindy Augustine, Lauren Barbara, Peter Bertucio, Amy Chodorowski, Mimi & Taylor Galusha, Andrea & Greg Ginter, Pina Gulino, Liz Hallinan, Paula Heinzmann, Amber Kiniry, Sharon Koziol, Jackie & Paul LaPerriere, Lucy Liska, Charlene Mainville, Martin Malicki, Jackie Malizia, Beth Roth, Alicia Schenkel and Janet Vasel.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our welcome back luncheon for the teachers and staff: Lauren Barbara, Tammy Breard, Sue Breglio, Martina Cacioli, Andrea Ginter, Darka Jara, Michele Livingston, Lauren & Martin Malicki, Phoebe Ostergren, Kathleen Peacock and Alicia Schenkel.

EMERSON~WILLIAMS 2011-2012

PTO MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Please support the Emerson-Williams PTO by donating
\$7.00 per child or \$10.00 per family.

Did you know that the Emerson Williams PTO helps to fund field trips, enrichment programs, social events and many more activities?

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 _____



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