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## *The Wellington News*

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**September 22, 2014**

### *Important Dates:*

- **September 22:** Fourth Grade Send Off Parent Meeting, Community Room, 7PM
- **September 23:** 5:00-7:00PM, PTO Picnic at Underwood Park! See below for more details.
- **September 26:** PTO Movie Night, see below for details
- **September 29:** 7:00PM, First PTO Meeting, Wellington Community Room
- **September 30:** PTO PumpkinFest! See below for more details.
- **October 1: Picture Day at Wellington!**
- **October 8:** International Walk to School Day (rain or shine)

### *Dear Wellington Families,*

As you might have heard, the four elementary schools are conducting a new report card pilot this school year. Based on recommendations from our educators, we will have two official reporting periods along with our two parent/teacher conferences. By arranging the year like this, we are hopeful that parents and guardians of elementary students will have more connection points with the classroom within a given year. For the 2014-15 school year the touch points will be:

- November: Parent/Guardian conferences to discuss progress
- January 23rd: First report cards sent home
- March: Parent/Guardian conferences to discuss progress
- June: Final report card sent home on the last day of school

In addition to there being more communication points in each school year, the report cards have been refined so there is better alignment with the curriculum, instruction, and assessment practices we use in Belmont. This is a pilot process that will be refined, based on input from families and educators. Please let us know if you have any questions about our elementary report card pilot.

*And, how are the children?*

See you at the picnic tomorrow!

With gratitude,

Amy and Maureen

## ***BOKS and ASE Fall 2014 - Registration OPEN NOW!***

Wellington After School Extracurricular (ASE) Fall 2014 **registration is now open! Register for courses between Monday, September 22 and Friday, September 26, 2014!** There are some old favorites among the courses as well as some new offerings. Please read the following and get ready to register online. **Note: Courses will start the week of October 14<sup>th</sup>.**

- What is **BOKS**? It is a morning program designed to give kids a body and brain boost that will set them up for a day of learning!
- What is **ASE**? It is an after school extracurricular course program offered to Wellington Students by the PTO. Students may register for courses ranging from sports and engineering to crafts and science. Courses are offered at Wellington on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, from 2:55 - 3:55 p.m. Courses run for 6-8 week sessions in the Fall, Winter and Spring.
- Registration for courses is “first come, first served” and you will be able to see on the registration page how many spaces are available per course.
- Review the fall course descriptions and schedules here: <http://wellington.recdesk.com/recdeskportal/>.
- To use RecDesk, you must either update your existing account, or create an account including a “head of household” (person who will complete the registration(s) and make payments) and each of the children who will be registered for courses. Set up your account here: <http://wellington.recdesk.com/recdeskportal/> Read the notes in the registration system to guide you through or click on the “Registration Help” button.
- Fees vary by course. Payments accepted include Visa, Mastercard and Discover, or PayPal.

For questions and feedback, please contact the ASE Program Coordinator at [ase.wellington@yahoo.com](mailto:ase.wellington@yahoo.com).

## ***PTO News:***

Calling All 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents – **The 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Send Off Team (4GSO) needs your help!** Join us **Monday, Sept. 22<sup>th</sup>, 7PM** in the community room for a brief meeting to learn more about the upcoming events and hear of opportunities to get involved throughout the year!

***Working on the Wellington PTO Directory!*** The Wellington PTO has been busy working with the school department to get our directory ready, but we are still missing contact information from 89 families. Families should have received an email from Christine Trischitta, Belmont Public Schools Compliance Specialist, requesting information. Didn't receive it or can't find it? Please check your spam/junk folders or email Christine at: [ctrischitta@belmont.k12.ma.us](mailto:ctrischitta@belmont.k12.ma.us). **The sooner we get this information the sooner the Wellington PTO Directory gets done!**

***ASE and BOKS registration now open!*** Sign up NOW for Fall ASE and BOKS programs! Yoga, Crafts, Lego, Mad Science, Mr. S and MORE! Visit <http://wellington.recdesk.com/recdesksportal> to set up your account and register now! Courses fill up fast; don't miss the one you want! Registration ends this Friday, 9/26. Questions? [ase.wellington@yahoo.com](mailto:ase.wellington@yahoo.com)

The PTO's **Green Committee** is working to reduce waste and encourage healthy habits at our school, and we need your help! Our goal is for all students at Wellington to take the Green Team pledge with their parents. Each student who takes the pledge receives a prize! Just click on this link to take the pledge: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/29G66KL> Even if your student took the pledge last year, we encourage them to take it again. Questions or comments? Email **Anna Churchill**, [aquarianna6@hotmail.com](mailto:aquarianna6@hotmail.com)

#### **UPCOMING PTO EVENTS:**

- ***Wellington School Welcome Picnic - Tuesday, Sept. 23, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00PM.*** Dine al fresco in Underwood Park! Bring a blanket and your own picnic dinner or sample the wares from participating vendors.
- ***Movie Night - The LEGO MOVIE! Friday, Sept. 2, 5:30PM (first showing); 6:30PM (second showing)*** Suggested Donation: \$2/person or \$10/family. Put on your PJs, grab a pillow and blanket, and join us for The Lego Movie! Two showings: 5:30PM in the Gymnasium (**popcorn only**); and 6:30PM in the Cafeteria (**all food** permitted). Popcorn, pizza & drinks will be available for purchase. Parents must accompany their children. **Note:** This is our ONLY movie night this year, so we hope everyone can join us!
- ***First General PTO Meeting - Monday, Sept. 29, 7:00PM***  
Please join us for the first General PTO membership meeting of the school year. Our special guest will be John P. Phelan, Superintendent of the Belmont Public Schools. During this meeting we will also be voting on our SAC parent representatives Sarah Griffith and Katie Colello.
- ***PumpkinFest - Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2:30 p.m. - until everything's sold out!***  
Gear up for Fall! Stop by and purchase pumpkins and other seasonal decorations, together with delicious candy apples and cider donuts. Proceeds benefit the 4GSO. Parents are invited to join in the fun at 2:30 p.m., with the kids joining following dismissal.

- ***Gift Card and Food Drive: From September 30<sup>th</sup>- October 3<sup>rd</sup>***, the Wellington PTO will be collecting donations for a gift card and food drive to help families in need in our neighborhoods. We hope you can help us! Our focus for the drive is to collect gift cards for local grocery stores and Target, which will help us support families with kids in our community. We will also be collecting specific new and unused non-perishable food items, which are always welcome. Please contact Nomita Ganguly - [nganguly@verizon.net](mailto:nganguly@verizon.net) - with questions.
- ***Picture Day - Wednesday, October 1.***
- ***International Walk to School Day - Wednesday, October 8 Rain or Shine!***

**As always, our thanks to all Wellington families for your continued support of the PTO - we couldn't do it without you!**

*Angela and Don*