



Telephone 617/993-5600

The Wellington News

Roger Wellington School
121 Orchard St
Belmont, Massachusetts 02478

Amy N. Spangler
Principal

Maureen A. Barnowski
Assistant Principal

Monday: November 3, 2014

Important Dates:

- **November 5: Parent/Teacher Conferences, Early Dismissal, 11:40AM**
- **November 12: Parent/Teacher Conferences, Early Dismissal, 11:40AM**
- **November 12-14: Wellington Book Fair! Please see below for details!**
- **November 13: Pizza/Bake Sale at Book Fair!**
- **November 19: Parent/Teacher Conferences, Early Dismissal, 11:40AM**
- **November 20: PTO Shopping Stroll (Evening); more information to follow.**
- **November 25: 4GSO Pie Sale!**

Dear Wellington Families,

Over the past several weeks of Principal's Month Maureen and I have been showered with nice notes and comments from staff, parents, and students. We have had incredible lunches made for us and people have all gone out of their way to say thank you. This was unexpected and truly humbling for us. Thank you for your kindness and thoughtfulness this month.

Please be sure to read the attached newsletter from our K-2 reading specialists!

And, how are the children? Well, very well indeed!

Please let us know how we can best support your child.

Warmly,

Amy and Maureen

Lost and Found Notice:

If you cannot find a sweatshirt, jacket, or other items like water bottles, chances are really good that the item is in the lost and found at Wellington Elementary School! Lost and found items grow by the day and it is becoming difficult to store these items, so please make note to check the lost and found during your parent/teacher conferences. ***All unclaimed items will be donated to charity on Monday, November 24.***

Nurse's Notes: (Halloween Candy and allergy reminder)

Please continue to send healthy snacks/lunch for your child now that your candy supply may have increased as a result of Halloween. We are trying to teach good nutrition and support children with life-threatening food allergies. Candy is best consumed at home. During the holiday season it can be difficult to keep focused on healthy choices, and your support is greatly appreciated! Feel free to call me with questions at 617-993-5606. Terry Grimm RN

PTO News:

Directories Have Been Distributed!

If you received a directory, but do not see your child's name listed, there are a couple of possible causes. All directory information was collected and distributed by the Town of Belmont, using data from responses to the emails from the Town, sent in September. If your information is not included, it could be that: (a) you did not reply to the email; or (b) you did reply, but checked the "opt out" box asking that your contact information not be included in the directory. If any of your contact information is incorrect, please contact Christine Trischitta at ctrischitta@belmont.k12.ma.us.

If you did not receive a directory, but would still like one, you may either make a donation of \$35 to the Wellington PTO or fill out and return the form that was sent home in your child's Communications Folder last week.

Volunteer for the Wellington Book Fair(e)!!



Hear Ye, Hear Ye! The Wellington Book Fair, one of the biggest PTO fundraisers of the year, is almost here! Beginning NEXT WEEK, we will transform the Community Room into The Wellington Kingdom of Books, complete with knights, dragons, and a castle - but we need your help!

Principal Spangler has agreed that she will KISS A FROG if Wellington can sell **4,670 books** this year – and she's already getting ready!



The Book Fair will be open from Wednesday, November 12th, through Friday, November 14th. To reach our goals and Kiss That Frog, we need many volunteers to assist with set-up, classroom previews, sales and clean up. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** Every K-4 classroom participates in the book fair! Please select a time to help out and sign up at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0f4caaa72ba31-wellington2>. Every hour you give helps and training will be provided. For questions, please contact Nina Rabkina at mailnina@yahoo.com. Thank you for your effort and support!

The Book Fair Committee

4th Grade Send Off Pizza Sales! Wednesday, November 12, 6-8:00 p.m. in the Wellington Cafeteria. Book Fair + Pizza + Home Baked Treats = One Easy and Fun Night Supporting Wellington! Support the 4th Grade Send Off (and do yourself a favor by making dinner and dessert easy) by pre-ordering a pizza through the Pizza Sale at the Wellington Book Fair. Cheese and/or pepperoni pizzas may be ordered ahead or purchased that evening at a cost of \$11 (cheese) or \$13 (pepperoni). Gluten free pizzas will be available for pre-orders only. Look for a flyer in your child's backpack this week with further details!

4th Grade Send Off Thanksgiving Pies!

Thanksgiving is just around the corner and we have you covered!! Pie Orders will begin next week, so you can relax and bring a perfectly prepared pie to Thanksgiving dinner - all while also

supporting the 4th grade send off. Pies will cost \$11 each, bring some to your own dinner, donate a pie to the Belmont food pantry, or both - your choice. Keep an eye out for flyers in your child's backpack next week!

Fourth Annual Wellington Shopping Night Fundraiser - Belmont Center, Thursday, November 20th

Get a jump on your holiday shopping and catch up with friends! Belmont Center stores Bells and Whistles, Thirty Petals, Bessie Blue, Revolve and Marmalade are opening their doors for a private shopping event between 7:00-9:00 p.m. to benefit the Wellington PTO. Afterwards, stroll on over to El Centro Tres - Belmont Center's newest restaurant - and enjoy a drink with friends and complimentary appetizers! **Participating businesses will donate 15% of sales directly to the Wellington PTO – just mention the Wellington PTO fundraiser when making your purchases!** Contact Kim Whalen (kwhalen@hotmail.com) or Lisa Miletich (lisamiletich@comcast.net) with any questions.

3rd Grade Enrichment: On Monday, October 27th and Friday, October 31st Ms. Patricia Bade – The Owl Woman visited with 3rd graders to share stories as well as historical and cultural information about her Penobscot, native American descendants. Students especially enjoyed learning the history of the bow and arrow, touching her native costume and her special guest owls. Thank you to our wonderful PTO for sponsoring this program for our students!

If your child walks to school, make sure they get a Traveler Ticket!

Have your child ask their teacher for a Traveler Ticket. Once a child walks, bikes or rolls to and/or from school a total of 20 times, they will receive a prize! Simply drop the completed ticket in the marked box (by the office). Please make sure your child's name is legible, and include grade and teacher (though the ticket doesn't ask for it – makes for easier matching!). There is no limit to the number of completed Traveler Tickets a child can submit. Please contact Diane Hutchins-Fridmann, Walk to School Coordinator, at dianehf98@gmail.com, with any questions.

Help At Pick-Up and Drop-Off!

The Wellington PTO is looking for parent volunteers to help control traffic flow at the entrance to the two staff parking lots – both during drop-off and pick up. If you would like to volunteer, please contact wellingtonptopresidents@gmail.com. Thank you!

Green Team News: As part of the kick-off to a service/learning project called “Go Blue” (like “Go Green” except with a focus on the ocean), 4th graders recently took a trip to Belmont High School's grounds to be “Trash Hunters.” Students are learning about how trash ends up in the ocean and affects our environment. Our students were happy to collect water bottles, wrappers and other trash that could have ended up in our water supply or the ocean. One student noted excitedly, “we get to be part of the solution, not part of the pollution!” Thanks 4th graders and teachers for making our town a cleaner, greener place to live!

Mark Your Calendars and Save the Following Dates:

Nov. 12 - Nov. 14: Wellington Book Fair.

Nov. 12: Pizza Night/Bake Sale (first night of Wellington Book Fair).

Nov. 14: 4GSO Pie Sale Order Forms Due (Pick-up Nov. 25).

Nov. 20: Wellington Shopping Night, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

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



October

Amy Baxter
Mary MacDonald
K-2 Reading Specialists

The Literacy Corner

ABC's

Learning the alphabet is one of the first literacy related activities children do. When children are very young, they learn to sing the Alphabet Song. While it is important that children know the letters in order, they should also be able to recognize upper and lower case letters in isolation and learn their sounds. There are lots of ways to help your child to build automaticity with this.

- Read alphabet books.
- Rainbow letters: Write the letters of the alphabet and have your child trace while saying the name/sound.
- Make your own ABC book: Write each letter on one page and illustrate with things that begin with that letter.



Book of the Month

Blackout

By John Rocco

These Autumn days are beautiful, but busy! Families are running from soccer practice to ballet, rushing home to make dinner and have a bath and before you know it, bedtime! Read this book and think about the message. Blackout has little text, but **lots** of meaning. Let's try to unplug, unwind

Becoming a Reader

There are many ways you can help at home as your child transitions into a reader. Read aloud daily. As you read, point under the words. Talk about the letters and the sounds they make. Notice sight words and invite your child to read along. Remember that it's OK if they are reading from memory or using the pictures!

Reading and writing are interconnected. Provide a place to write with writing supplies available. Adding in new materials from time to time can be great motivation! Talk with your child often and ask questions that don't have a simple or obvious answer. Discuss the meanings of words. Model a love for reading and writing!

S.M.A.R.T.

To develop basic balance and vestibular skills, try the following activity:

Helicopter Spins

Have your child place his/her arms out straight from their shoulders like a "T" and tilt his/her head down to look at their feet (approx. 30 degree tilt)

Spin for approx. 15 seconds with their eyes closed then stop and stand for 15 seconds with their eyes closed.

-Repeat this start and stop sequence 10 times for a total of 5 minutes.

Have Fun!

Technology

Some helpful websites you might try at home are:

- www.starfall.com
- www.raz-kids.com (K and 1)
- www.abcya.com
- www.funbrain.com
- www.readwritethink.org

