



## The Wellington News

Roger Wellington School  
121 Orchard St  
Belmont, Massachusetts 02478

Telephone 617/993-5600  
Telecopier 617/484-1790

Amy N. Spangler  
Principal

Sarah Forrey-Pettit  
Assistant Principal

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### *Important Dates:*

- March 20: Spirit Wear Sale
- **March 22: Early RELEASE: Students Dismissed at 11:40AM; NO lunches served at Wellington**
- March 30: Kindergarten Information Night; 5:30PM, for families with incoming kindergarteners. Parents/guardians ONLY!
- March 31: Outstanding Teacher Award Nomination DEADLINE
- April 1 (Saturday): Bandorama, BHS Field House, 4-5PM (Fourth graders set-up at 3:30PM)
- April 1 (Saturday): Stringorama, BHS Field House, 12:30PM set-up time for 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> graders
- April 3: Raising Resilient Kids, Parent Workshop, see below
- April 5: Raising Resilient Kids, Parent Workshop, see below
- April 4-May 17: Fourth Grade MCAS Testing Window
- April 5: Third Grade MCAS, English Language Arts #1
- April 12: Third Grade MCAS, English Language Arts #2
- April 13: Third Grade MCAS, English Language Arts #3
- April 13: Third and Fourth Graders' Science Night (See below for registration information)
- May 16: Third Grade MCAS, Math #1
- May 17: Third Grade MCAS, Math #2

### *Dear Wellington Families,*

We know and understand that parking at Wellington is truly challenging. *We deeply appreciate everyone working together in order to keep students safe and to maintain positive relations with our neighbors. PLEASE do not park or drop/of students:*

1. In the "loop" in the small parking lot on the primary-side of the school. This is not a safe or sustainable practice. *{Always use the large loop on the other side of the school, near flag pole, for adult-supervised student drop off between 8:25AM*

***and 8:40AM. Drivers may also drop students OFF without adult supervision along Orchard Street in the designated zones.}***

2. In the parking lot at St. Joe's church.
3. In front of a neighbor's driveway.
4. In front of the driveway or IN the driveway that leads to the Wellington loading dock.

Thank you for your assistance with keeping our students safe!

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

Amy and Sarah

### ***Incoming Kindergarteners:***

Do you or someone you know have a kindergartener planning to come to Wellington next school year? If the answer is YES, we need your help in getting the word out about registration, Information Night, and Intake Screening Day.

- **Registration:** This year ALL registration must be completed, **prior** to April 3. Go to the Belmont Public Schools website to begin this process. Begin registration online. Once you have completed the online forms, bring required documents to the office (as outlined in the directions from the website). We will complete your registration at that point and also sign you up for the Intake Screening Day.
- **Information Night:** Parents and guardians are invited to attend the Wellington Information Night on **Thursday, March 30 at 5:30PM**. You will meet the kindergarten teachers and hear critical information about how to prepare of a successful kindergarten year. This for parents/guardians only, and not for children. (Thank you!)
- **Intake Screening Day:** You must have a completed file **and** you must make an hour-long appointment to participate in this event on **Thursday, April 27**. Creating this appointment happens on the day when you bring your documents to the school, as outlined above.

### ***3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade MCAS Testing:***

As noted in our calendar above, MCAS testing is upon us. We will be testing third graders using the paper-based test so there are no changes to our implementation processes. Third grade students will all be tested at the same time on the five days listed above, as they have been in the past. The State Department of Elementary and Secondary Education mandated that all fourth graders be tested using computers. This mandate protracts the testing window for fourth grade. Specifically, fourth graders have the same number of days of testing (5) but, because we can only test ONE class a day in our computer lab, each teacher has different days within the window for his/her tests. ***Each fourth grade teacher will be sending parents and guardians their unique testing schedules by the end of next week.***

### ***Outstanding Teacher Awards (FBE):***

As you may have seen, the announcement for the 2017 Outstanding Teacher Awards went out on the district list-serve last week. The nomination period for this event runs through **March 31<sup>st</sup>**. The Foundation for Belmont Education is excited to announce the 2017 Outstanding Teacher Awards. This program recognizes and celebrates the extraordinary contributions made by teachers in the Belmont Public Schools.

Nominations are currently being accepted for these awards. Belmont parents and community members, Belmont Public School colleagues, and high school or middle school students can submit nominations for teachers - of any grade, subject, or specialty - who they feel deserve this special recognition.

Teachers from Belmont's six schools are chosen for this award. Each award winner will be honored at a surprise celebration at their school and at a district-wide awards ceremony to be held on May 2nd at the Chenery Middle School.

### *Nurse's Notes: Welcome Erin Stockman RN*

We are pleased to welcome Erin Stockman, RN as a part-time nurse in our clinic. Erin will be working with me as part of her clinical experience as she pursues an advanced degree at Northeastern University. She will be with us through early May, most likely on Tuesdays. Feel free to call me with questions at 617-993-5606

Terry Grimm RN

### *Raising Resilient Kids (Parent Workshop):*

Come to this year's social and emotional learning presentation to learn about resilience, how to foster it at home, and how we're fostering it in the schools. This presentation is part of the district's social and emotional learning initiative, generously funded by the Foundation for Belmont Education. Choose the presentation that best fits your kids and/or your schedule.

#### **Elementary Presentation:**

- Monday, April 3
- 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- Chenery Middle School Auditorium

### *PTO News:*

A full calendar of PTO events can be found online

<http://www.belmont.k12.ma.us/wellington/pto/index.asp?pageID=1>.

Please use the following address to access the Wellington and Belmont School Events calendar from other applications. You can copy and paste this into any calendar product that supports the iCal format. Notifications can be individually tailored from your calendar or device.

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/0e3o095rv2hl8b4m561sjgmm7k%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

### ***ASE Update:***

The Winter Session is coming to a close! Thank you to all who have participated! ***Last days of Winter Session classes are as follows:***

- Monday, March 27th
- Tuesday, March 28th
- Thursday, March 30th
- Friday, March 24th

***Registration for Spring ASE opened on Monday, March 20th at 12am.*** Check out some great spring classes including After School Sports (K-4), Yoga (K-2), Spanish (K-2), Gardening Magic (3-4) and more! **Classes begin on Monday April 3rd. Register online at:**

<https://wellington.recdesk.com/recdeskportal/>

***It's March- That Means Box Tops Time!*** Collecting Box Tops For Education is a fun and easy way to earn cash for our school! *Last year, we raised over \$850* for the Wellington PTO, with items you already buy – let's try for even more this year!! The money raised is used for field trips, in-school enrichment, classroom supplies, equipment and more. Whose class will collect the MOST BoxTops?! Our top collecting classes will be rewarded in April so send in your Box Tops today!

## **THANK YOU:**

***A Huge and Heartfelt Thank you to Our Carnival Leadership - Kristina Cardello and Lisa Engler!*** Thank you so much to Kristina and Lisa for their tireless work to bring another amazing Carnival to the Belmont Community! This is a huge undertaking and our volunteers put together an amazing day for the town and pulled off one of our biggest fundraisers of the year! Special thanks to Nomita Ganguly for sharing her Carnival knowledge with the team! Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped to make the Carnival happen, whether baking, donating books, setting up, pouring sand, running the games or painting faces! We quite literally couldn't have done it without you!



***Thank you again to all who helped with the Winter Carnival!*** We know that the barrage of volunteer requests seemed unending, but in the end we think it was worth it! Don't you?



#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Third Annual Wellington Science Night** –Thursday, April 13! Join us for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade Science Night on Thursday, April 13, 2016 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m., in the Cafeteria. Nearly 70 students are participating in this year’s Science Night. Come and check out their hard work and find out what they learned from their experiments. The purpose of the Science Night is to: encourage students' interest in science; develop their inquiry and investigation skills; learn to work as a team; and give them a sense of pride in completing a research project.
- Spirit Wear Sale Coming Soon!** Watch your student’s backpacks this week for the ordering information for this year’s Wellington Spirit Wear! Just in time for Spring, we will have new designs in flannel pants, hoodies, t-shirts and shorts! We’ve partnered with Champions Sporting Goods to bring you some exciting new gear-samples will be available at Wellington!
- GREEN TEAM NEWS!** *Do you have picture framing experience??* The Green Team is looking for a volunteer who has experience with picture framing to advise and/or help with framing a poster that will be hung in the Wellington entryway. If you can help, please email [aquarianna6@hotmail.com](mailto:aquarianna6@hotmail.com).

- **Wellington Green Family Tips:** Has your family come up with any creative ways to save energy or reduce waste in your home? If so, you can multiply your impact by sharing your idea with the Wellington community. The Wellington PTO Green Committee is looking for families to share their 'green tips' in this newsletter. Please email Anna Churchill, [aquarianna6@hotmail.com](mailto:aquarianna6@hotmail.com), if you have something to share!

### **2017 4th-Grade Send-Off Information for Fourth-Grade Parents**

- **What is the "Fourth-Grade Send-Off"?** The Fourth-Grade Send-Off (4GSO) is an annual tradition at Wellington. It is a party held just for the fourth graders and their parents/guardians to celebrate the end of the students' time in elementary school and the transition to middle school. The event includes a dinner for the fourth graders (and light fare for the grown-ups), music, a slideshow, and special presentations by Principal Spangler and others. In addition, the fourth graders receive a special memory book, t-shirt, and other mementos from their time at Wellington. Due to space constraints, each student may be accompanied by up to two adults- no younger siblings please!
- **When is it?** Thursday, June 15 from 6:00-8:00 pm in the Wellington cafeteria and gymnasium. Look for an Evite to come soon!
- **Who puts the Fourth-Grade Send-Off together?** A committee of fourth-grade parents is already hard at work planning and fundraising for this special event, but third-grade parents traditionally volunteer at the party itself so we can enjoy the time with our children. Note that the event and mementos for the students are entirely self-funded through parent donations and fundraising activities – we do not receive any funding from the school or the Wellington PTO for the Fourth-Grade Send-Off.
- **How can you help?** There are three main ways that every fourth grade parent can help contribute to the 4GSO:
  1. **Volunteer!** Please contact Allison Goodwin, Nomita Ganguly, or Lauren Capitani at [farewellington@gmail.com](mailto:farewellington@gmail.com) if you'd like to get involved in planning the event, compiling pictures for the memory book and slide show, decorating, assembling gift bags or have any other great ideas or talents that you would like to contribute.
  2. **Provide photos!** Look for emails and a flyer this week about how you can contribute photos of your child and his or her classmates to the party slideshow and memory book. There will be two separate requests for photos, one specifically for the slideshow and the other for additional photos to be used in the memory book.
  3. **Contribute!** To help bring this party and gifts to your child, we are asking each family who can for a **donation of \$40**. If this amount is not feasible at this time, please feel free to make any donation you can. Also, any additional donations would be greatly appreciated. Please note that all fourth graders and parents are permitted to fully

participate in all of these events regardless of whether or not a contribution is made.

### **OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT WELLINGTON**

- **Amazon Smile** - *Are you an Amazon shopper?* If so, **sign up to use Amazon Smile and designate 0.5% of your purchase price to support your favorite charitable organization, like the Wellington PTO, Inc.** You use your existing amazon account, so it's simple! Go to <http://smile.amazon.com/about> for more details.
- **Mighty Nest** - **Want to be green AND help Wellington while you shop?** Join Mighty Nest to shop for healthy, everyday items - and they will donate **15% of your purchases back to Wellington.** Mighty Nest carries products for active, healthy families including kitchen items, lunch gear, toys, baby products, cleaning supplies and personal care products. For more info or to sign up, go to: <http://schools.mightynest.com/schools/ma/belmont/roger-e-wellington>

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

*Melissa & Lynne*

### ***Community News:***

***Join us at the 3rd Annual Boston Belmont Friends Bowling Event!***

**All Boston and Belmont families attending Belmont Public Schools are welcome to join in the fun for bowling, pizza, and making new friends. This event is open to k-12 families thanks to funding from Belmont Against Racism.**

**Date:** March 26th

**Time:** 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

**Where:** Boston Bowl, 820 William T Morrissey Blvd, Dorchester, MA (easy access, exit 12 off 93 South)

**What:** Bowling, Pizza, Arcade Tokens, and Meeting New Friends

**RSVP:** Please RSVP by March 19th to Carol Sabia at [crsabia@gmail.com](mailto:crsabia@gmail.com) or 617-388-8083 (include family name, student(s) name, grade level, and number of bowlers)

Join us for the

# BECCA PIZZI



## FAMILY FUN RUN 2017

**5K and 1 Mile for kids**

Sunday, April 23rd | Belmont High School Track  
5K begins at 9:30am | 1 Mile Kids Race begins at 9:00am

In addition to the fun join us for Awards & Giveaways

Register at [racesms.com/beccapizzi](http://racesms.com/beccapizzi)

Organized by



Proceeds benefit

BECCA PIZZI  
SCHOLARSHIP FUND  
& BELMONT BOOSTERS

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