



The Wellington News

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May 22, 2017

Important Dates:

- **May 26: Collect Lost and Found no later than 6PM**
- **May 22-26: ASE Classes End**
- **May 31: Early Release 11:40AM**
- **June 1:** Spring Picnic
- **June 2:** Third and Fourth Grade Field Day
- **June 12:** PTO Teacher Appreciation Breakfast
- **June 15:** Fourth Grade Send Off, 6-8PM
- **June 19:** PTO Spring Picnic! NOTE the NEW DATE!
- **June 21:** Last Walk—Join our community at 11:10AM SHARP to celebrate FOURTH GRADERS
- **June 21:** Last Day of School, 11:40AM Dismissal for ALL students

Dear Wellington Families,

Thank you! Please join me in thanking Melissa McKenna for serving as our PTO co-president for these past two years. It has been a pleasure to work with Melissa in this capacity and I will miss her enthusiasm and deep concern for all children in our school. Melissa has been a steadfast, dedicated, hands-on leader! Thank you, Melissa, for making a difference at Wellington each and every day. Also, thank you to Lynne Standish for serving along with Melissa this past school year. I look forward to continuing our work together especially as we welcome Meryl Junik as our incoming PTO co-president. Congratulations, Meryl.

Running Late? If you are running late and school has already begun, **please park your car in the lot and run your children into the school, signing them in.** *This is not a task that students may do without parents or care providers.* Thank you for your help to ensure that all students are safe.

Lost and Found: It is THAT time of year, again, when our lost and found is bursting at the seams! Please know that we will be DONATING all items to a local charity on **Friday, May**

26, 2017 at 6PM! If you or someone you love has lost a jacket, coat, sweater, sweatshirt, boots, or other outerwear items, NOW is the time to check!

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

Amy

Helps Us to Show Respect to Wellington Trees:

Wellington neighbors, as well as concerned students, have noticed that during non-school hours, students are not showing our trees respect. Students have been seen jumping on tree branches and peeling bark off of our trees! Please help us to preserve our trees by asking students to show respect to our trees. Thank you!

Nurse's Notes: (Sniffles, Sunburns and Safety)

- **Seasonal pollen allergies are also causing problems.** It can be difficult to tell if allergies or a cold are to blame for the runny nose and watery eyes, **but in the absence of fever**, preventative measures of clean face and hands, good nutrition/fluid intake, adequate rest, as well as over-the-counter allergy/cold preparations, can help decrease symptoms. If your child is particularly “drippy” then he/she should stay home until the symptoms are under control enough to participate fully in the activities of the school day.
- **The sunshine is here and so are the sunburns!** It is important every day but especially now with warmer weather that sunscreen becomes part of the morning routine. A sunscreen of SPF 15 or higher applied prior to school will protect your child through the school day, as well as decrease the risk of skin issues later in life.
- **It is NOT time for flip-flop shoes!** Children need **solid, supportive foot protection here at school** to avoid injuries. Even open-toed sandals put young feet at risk in this busy environment. Children should wear sneakers, especially to participate in gym class.

Feel free to call me with questions at 617-993-5606. Terry Grimm RN

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>

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Would you like to volunteer with the PTO next year?

We're still looking to fill these positions for 2017-18:

- ***Directory: lay-out & ads***

- *Graphic designer(s)*
- *Insurance advisor*
- *Lost & Found coordinator*
- *Traffic supervisor*
- *Field day liaison*
- *Grant Writers*
- *Fall & Spring Picnic coordinator*
- *School Committee Meeting Reporter*

Help us spread the word! Please let us know if you or someone you know is interested in

being more involved with the PTO next year.

Email us at: wellingtonptopresidents@gmail.com

LAST CALL FOR LOST & FOUND! Please take a moment this week to take a look at the Lost & Found, located in the hallway near the Cafeteria, for any missing clothing, shoes, sports equipment or water bottles you may not have seen in awhile! **Any items that have not been claimed by 6:00 p.m. this Friday, May 26th will be donated.**

FINAL TEACHER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST JUNE 12 - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Please consider donating an item for the last Teacher Appreciation Breakfast of the school year! Help the teachers sail into summer, while showing them how much we appreciate all they do for our children. Donate an item to the Teacher Appreciation Breakfast on **Monday, June 12th**. This is a fabulous way for those with packed schedules to show support for Wellington's amazing faculty and staff, as it only entails dropping a breakfast item off at school on a Monday morning before school starts.

Please consider signing up to provide items using the SignUp link below. You may also volunteer to set up and/or clean up in the Teacher's Lounge. All provided items should be labeled "Teacher Breakfast" with an ingredient list where appropriate and left in the Teacher's Lounge on the morning of the breakfast (7:30-8:00 am).

We're using SignUp.com to organize the event, but feel free to contact Lauren Capitani with any questions at [917.797.4837](tel:917.797.4837) or laurencapitani@gmail.com

1. Click this link to SignUp: <http://signup.com/go/zjLLXw>
2. Enter your email address: You will NOT need to register an account on SignUp
3. Sign up!: Choose your spots - SignUp will send you an automated confirmation and reminders.

(Note: SignUp does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact me and I can sign you up manually.)

3rd & 4th Grade Field Day Volunteers 2017 - Sign-Up Now! It's that time of year again...FIELD DAY TIME! At Wellington Elementary School, our 3rd and 4th graders get to enjoy field day once a year, and this year it will be on **Friday June 2nd** (with a rain date of Friday June 9th). Field Day takes place right at our school, using all of the outdoor spaces (and some indoor as well). Our PE Teacher, Aimee Doherty does all of the behind-the-scenes work to get field day up and running, but it truly does not run without the help of our amazing parent volunteers. Details are included on the sign-up Genius, instructions are provided 15 minutes before the events begin!

Note: Stations are subject to change.

Field Day Location: Wellington Elementary School - Meet OUTSIDE of the main doors by the benches

4th Grade Time: 8:45am - 11:00am EDT; **Date:** 06/02/2017 (Fri.)

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090d4daeac2ca6f85-4thgrade1>

3rd Grade Time: 12:15 pm - 2:30 pm EDT; **Date:** 06/02/2017 (Fri.)

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090d4daeac2ca6f85-3rdgrade1>

BOX TOPS CHAMPIONS! The final count is IN! This year, Wellington students (and families & friends) collected 10,753 Box Tops for Education! Way to clip those Box Tops! Thank you to Anne Pareti for collecting all those little baggies and organizing her counting crew! The race was close this year but our three winning classes are: **Cox - 950; St. Clair - 915; Reilly - 823**

Congratulations to our winning collectors! Your classes will receive a special treat during the school day!

PTO ENRICHMENT UPDATE:

- **ALL ABUZZ BECAUSE THE "BEE LADY" IS COMING!** Fourth Graders are looking forward to a Honeybee Presentation by Birgit deWeerd, a local beekeeper. On May 22nd and May 25th she will teach the 4th grade about the role of bees in pollinating plants and making honey (this coincides with our fast-growing plant science unit). *"This program is supported in part by a grant from the Belmont Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency."*
- **THE SECOND GRADERS ENJOYED TWO FUN ENRICHMENT EXPERIENCES LAST WEEK: A FANTASTIC VISIT TO LAND SAKE IN WESTON!** Two of the second grade classes toured the farm with a guide and visited four different habitats on the property (*the rest of the second graders will go this week). In small groups, they studied and compared soil samples from each of the four habitats. As an added bonus on this very beautiful day, they were even able to enjoy a picnic lunch on the farm!



Habitat Education Center and Wildlife Sanctuary brought soil decomposition to life for our second graders! In support of the science curriculum on living things, the

Instructors from Habitat set up three stations for each 2nd grade classroom to explore things such as: fungi, forest matter—full of beetles, spiders, worms, and other decomposers and two HUGE African millipedes! While getting their hands dirty, the students learned about the complex world of living matter and soil decomposition!



GREEN TEAM UPDATE:

If your child brings lunch to school, here's a great resource with really practical tips to help reduce waste: <http://www.wastefreelunches.org/parents.html>

They even have a great list of fresh, healthy foods that you can print off and give to your child so they can circle things they want to have in their lunches. Ask your child to help with packing the lunch, too! Involving your children in helping to plan, prepare and pack their own lunches means they will be more likely to eat it and not toss it.

- Cut up fruits and vegetables. Children often take 1 or 2 bites out of an uncut apple or banana and throw the rest away. To avoid this, pack cut-up fruits and vegetables in a reusable container. (Put a little lemon juice on apple slices to prevent them turning brown.)
- Ask your child to bring home lunch leftovers. Looking at leftover lunches is a great way to get information about your children's lunch preferences. Find out why certain foods have come back uneaten. Did your child not like it? Was she not hungry enough to eat everything in the lunchbox?
- Maintain a dialogue without criticizing. If you chastise your child, he is more likely to throw food away to dispose of the evidence. That's your hard-earned money going in the trash.

We hope these tips will help you and your children eat well and save money and resources. If you have a tip to share, please let us know by emailing Anna at aquarianna6@hotmail.com.

2017 Fourth-Grade Send-Off Information for Fourth-Grade Parents

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!

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 if you'd like to get involved!

Third Grade Parents, please volunteer to help out on the night of the party!

Not only will you be allowing the 4th Grade families to enjoy the evening with their children, you will also get a sneak peek at what to expect for your own child next year! Select a time frame that works best for your schedule and as the event nears, you will hear from us on your evening's assignment (i.e. table set-up, distributing gift bags, handing out burgers/dogs, and clean-up).

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b094fafac2fa75-4gso>

2. **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.

Please email questions to farewellington@gmail.com.

- **Digital Slide Show Photos: Post at least 3 high-resolution photos to the appropriate folders listed.** A digital slide show will be featured at the 4GSO event. Upload single portraits, photos with friends and with teachers. (Please send school age photos - no baby pictures please). A link to the digital slide show will be sent to each family as a keepsake. Miscellaneous photos K-4 (Fall 2012 – Spring 2017):
- 4th Grade 2016/17 Lowell Mills:
<https://www.dropbox.com/request/C8aABaJ1f1Dmm84DPtUy>
- 4th Grade 2016/17 New England trip:
<https://www.dropbox.com/request/ewckwuLNUWlGRusLVg4L>

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:

- **GUEST SPEAKER, Peter Shelley, Senior Counsel, Conservation Law Foundation**
May 31, 7:00 pm Chenery Auditorium

Planning time on the Cape, the Coast of Maine, Block Island or at any coastal destination this summer? Join us for a special presentation on oceans and climate change and add a new element of discovery and meaning to your vacation.

This discussion will focus on the importance of oceans to life on the planet, the paradox of how they are, at the same time, very big and yet hold finite resources, and it will examine how humans understand and manage our oceans through science, poetry, law, photography, diving, fishing, and in countless other ways. The talk will also consider the challenges we face in keeping our oceans healthy, including the ever-growing difficulties tied to climate change. The presentation will emphasize how great humans are at solving problems when we are focused on doing so and examine what remediation is being explored.

This will be an interactive presentation with awe-inspiring visuals and a dynamic discussion with Mr. Shelley. Don't miss this important discussion of the impact of climate change and environmental stewardship on one of New England's most precious resources, our oceans!

Questions? Contact Madeline Fraser Cook, madelinefrasercook@gmail.com or Laurie Bufano, lakbufano@gmail.com