



The Wellington News

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Important Dates:

- **December 9:** MOST FALL PTO ASE courses end, see below for details
- **December 26-January 2:** No School
- **January 3:** School resumes
- **January 4:** Winter PTO ASE course registration begins

Dear Wellington Families,

As you may have already heard from your child, Mrs. Sieberg, our amazing school secretary is retiring after twenty-seven years of service. The following is an excerpt from the resolution that will be read by our School Committee on December 13:

Few people truly know that Mrs. Sieberg is a quiet, but relentless advocate for children. As the school secretary she often knew things that others might not know as it relates to the health or wellbeing of a child. She often shared her concerns with others to ensure that the needs of the children, as she saw them, were being met. There are several children at Wellington who know Mrs. Sieberg very well and her departure will be hard on them because she listens to them read and watches for them each and every day.

To honor Mrs. Sieberg's work at Wellington, the first Monday of December will be known as Sieberg Silent Reading Day! Today was our first annual event; children from all grade levels wrote notes to Mrs. Sieberg that she read with her family in our staff lounge while all children silently read in his/her classrooms!

Please join me in thanking Irene Sieberg for her years of service and dedication. Her last work day will be Friday, December 16. She has requested that we do NOT make a fuss or have big fan-fair during her departure. **Thank you for being respectful of Irene's wishes.**

And, how are the children? Well, very well indeed. Please let us know how we can best serve your family.

Amy

PTO News:

Mark Your Calendars and Save the Following Dates:

Dec 9: Fall ASE Courses End - See RecDesk for details

Jan 4: Winter ASE Registration Begins

A full calendar of 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>

THANK YOU:

Thank you to families who have given to the Wellington PTO Donation Campaign this year! Your generous donations enable the PTO to provide our children and their teachers with educational resources, such as in-school enrichment opportunities, field trips, classroom materials, professional development, and more. Your donations include a copy of the Wellington Directory (coming soon!). As we approach the new year, please consider the Wellington PTO when making your charitable contributions for 2016. As always, thank you for your support!!

IMPORTANT NEWS/REMINDERS:

FALL ASE CLASSES are wrapping up in the next couple weeks. Please review the schedule below:

- Monday classes end 12/5
- Tuesday classes end 12/13 (Yoga Adventurers ends 12/20)
- Thursday classes end 12/8 (Broadway Bound ends 12/15)
- Friday classes end 12/16

Winter registration dates and programs coming soon!

ENRICHMENT:

RECENTLY THE THIRD GRADE CLASSES HAD A GREAT FIELD TRIP TO PLIMOTH PLANTATION! A November tradition! The Third Graders learned a lot and had fun exploring what it was like to live like as Pilgrims and Wampanoag. Actors and Native Americans dressed in authentic garb and told students about the tools, cooking techniques, and living quarters in the settlements.



BOOK FAIR BY THE NUMBERS:

The Online Book Fair ended last week, and we completed another hugely successful Book Fair at Wellington! Thank you again to all of the volunteers who put in the hours to create our very own pop-up book store, complete with treats and costumed characters; and **thanks to all of YOU** for sharing the book fair with your children, family and friends! We hope that you were pleased with the improved selection of books this year.

We added nearly **6000** books to the Wellington Community, classrooms and library, and earned money, which will support the PTO mission and activities. We delivered **\$650** in books to the Belmont Food Pantry, and *Scholastic* will donate an additional \$650 to programs promoting literacy and access to books for families in need. Be on the lookout for Captain Spangler sailing the high seas in the new year!



IMPORTANT NEWS/REMINDERS: [SUPPORT WELLINGTON DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON!](#)

- ***It is not too early to start collecting those BoxTops!*** Collecting box tops 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 us try for even more this year!!* The money raised is used for field trips, in-school enrichment, classroom supplies, equipment and more. We will hold a contest in the Spring for which class can bring in the MOST BoxTops, so start collecting now!!
- ***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 is 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 information or to sign up, go to: <http://schools.mightynest.com/schools/ma/belmont/roger-e-wellington>.

Green Team News:

In November we celebrated America Recycles Day, which reminds us to work together on ways we can reduce, reuse and recycle. One of the places where we produce a huge amount of waste is in our cafeteria. Here are a few things to consider when packing lunches and snacks (remember, just one of these changes can have a significant impact on our environment):

- pack a reusable, well-labeled water bottle each day
- even if your child buys lunch, you can still use reusable cutlery from home
- encourage children not to take a plastic straw or plastic cutlery, unless they need it
- pack a cloth napkin
- use reusable snack containers and get away from single-serving snack bag cannot be recycled and produce a great deal of daily lunch waste
- choose juice bottles over pouches; juice pouches and straws cannot be recycled
- encourage children to recycle clean plastics, tinfoil, bottles, cans and plastic cups in the blue cafeteria recycling bins

- MightyNest has great reusable products and a portion of proceeds supports the PTO: <http://schools.mightynest.com/schools/ma/belmont/roger-e-wellington>

If you have got a lunchtime trash solution we would love to hear about it!!! Please send suggestions of what you and your family have successfully done to reduce lunch waste to Anna Churchill at aquarianna6@hotmail.com

*****Recycle your clean plastic bags at Wellington!** We have a plastic bag recycling bin by the lost and found area. You can also bring your bags directly to Star Market or Whole Foods. Remember that reducing waste is the first step. Bringing your own reusable bags to the store is the best way to reduce pollution. When you do end up with plastic bags, you can conveniently bring them to Wellington. And you can recycle more than just grocery bags. We also take newspaper sleeves, clear sandwich bags, dry cleaning bags, cereal box liners, and any kind of plastic wrapping around things like paper towels and napkins. These plastics CANNOT go in the curbside recycle bins. Help reduce waste and start bringing them into Wellington! Thank you to our TREX volunteers, Dawn Donahue and Alison Kemp!

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:

Green Corner-

The Belmont DPW wants to help you recycle your holiday cardboard. During this holiday season, the Belmont DPW will offer extra options for cardboard recycling. On the first Saturdays of December, January and February from 9:00am –noon, residents can drop off their cardboard at the Town Yard, 37 C Street. The cardboard must be flattened, but does not need to be cut into 3' x 3' sections. At the end of February, the Town will evaluate the program to determine if it should extend beyond these three Saturdays.

Cardboard Drop-Off Only; Town Yard, 37 C Street:

- Dec. 3rd 9:00am-12pm
- Jan. 7th 9:00am-12pm
- Feb. 4th 9:00am-12pm

Also this holiday season think carefully about the packaging of your gifts. Remember you pay for that packaging and you pay again to get rid of it! If you really cannot do without a product, write a letter to the company's corporate office requesting sustainable packaging.

This is the time of year for an increase of trash sent to Wheelabrator. Please do your part and be mindful of what you purchase and what you throw in the trash.

Have a happy, healthy, green holiday! Mary Beth Calnan/Belmont Recycling Coordinator/
mcalan@belmont-ma.gov

Girl Scout Troops Forming Now for Kindergarten and First Graders!

Right now there are TWO Girl Scout troops that are forming with girls from the Wellington school! Both troops have leadership and are looking for new girls. With the days getting shorter, the weather getting colder, and cookies right around the corner, Girl Scout troops are forming here at Wellington! We have troops with a limited number of openings for Kindergarten and 1st grade girls. Do not delay, register today! Here are the instructions to register:

- Go to <https://girlscouts.secure.force.com/girl>
- Fill out the first page of the girl registration and click 'continue'
- You will then be brought to a "Ways to Participate" page. Here you can enter in the specific troop number depending on which grade. Please enter Troop 72145 for Kindergarten and Troop 62152 for 1st Grade.
- Once you select the troop, continue through the registration until complete.