



The Wellington News

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Important Dates:

- **December 9:** MOST FALL PTO ASE courses end, see below for details
- **December 15:** School Picture RETAKES, see below for information
- **December 16:** Irene Sieberg's last day as Wellington School Secretary
- **December 26-January 2:** No School
- **January 3:** School resumes
- **January 4:** Winter PTO ASE course registration begins
- **January 6:** PTO Skate Night
- **January 17:** PTO Winter ASE Courses Begin
- **January 20:** Moira Gavin Bingo Night (BHS Cafeteria)

Dear Wellington Families,

As you might have already heard, a brother and sister from Burbank have suffered the unimaginable loss of losing their parent. A scholarship fund has been set up for them at Cambridge Savings Bank. All money raised will go directly to a college fund for these children. This PayPal link (www.paypal.me/sageandjamie) can be used to donate. There is no fee for money donated via this link.

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

Amy and Sarah

Electronic Report Cards Are Coming!

Our January elementary school report card will be shared with families via a link to PlusPortals and no longer sent home in hard copy! Those of you with students at the Chenery or BHS are already familiar with this portal. All elementary schools will be using the same portal with the January release of our report cards. In the coming weeks each Wellington family will receive an email from messenger@plusportals.com. When these emails have been released, we will notify you so you can be on the lookout for it. If you have any questions or concerns about access, be sure to let us know. Anyone who cannot access

the portal for any reason will still be provided with a hard copy of the report cards. Thank you!

Nurse's Notes: (Cold Weather Woes)

This time of year many students (and adults) are impacted by the cold air outside and dry air inside by having chapped lips, dry skin, even runny noses and scratchy throats not related to a cold. It helps to combat this dryness by having a **water bottle** handy for frequent sips, and a **Chapstick-type product** for frequent application to dry lips. Use of **skin lotion** regularly also helps. For those who suffer from nosebleeds, **Vaseline** applied daily with a cotton swab to the inside of the nostrils, and/or use of over-the-counter nasal spray, works well to keep that surface moist. Also make sure students **dress in layers** and come to school with a **warm jacket, (plus hat and mittens as the season gets colder)** since the temperature can be so variable this time of year. Feel free to call me with questions. 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>

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 donation includes 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:

Remaining FALL ASE CLASSES end this week. Please review the schedule below:

- Monday classes - NO CLASS
- Tuesday classes end 12/13 (Yoga Adventurers ends 12/20)
- Thursday classes ended 12/8 (Broadway Bound ends 12/15)
- Friday classes end 12/16

Winter registration dates and programs coming soon!

ENRICHMENT:

Our second graders were treated with a visit from celebrity author/illustrator Brian Lies! He read one of his best-selling picture books to each class. Through humor, he communicated to the children that ***effort is more important than talent*** when it comes to writing stories and drawing. We are very excited because his presentation aligned with the school's initiative in learning about having a growth mindset! Mr. Lies' work has included the popular *New York Times* bestselling "bats" series: Bats at the Beach, Bats at the Library, Bats at the Ballgame, and Bats in the Band and his most recent book, Gator Dad.



School pictures not Picture Perfect? Re-takes available December 15th only! School pictures were sent home last week in student backpacks. If you submitted a payment envelope and order form, but did not receive a packet, please contact Mrs. Papalia in the school office. If you are not satisfied with your child's school photos, the photographer will be conducting one session of pictures retakes! Below are details:

- **When:** Thursday, **December 15**
- **Time:** Throughout the morning, beginning at 9AM
- **What:** **Inform your child's teacher** if you plan for your child to participate in retakes no later than Tuesday, December 13
- **What to bring:** Your child will need to **bring the original pictures** with them to school on December 15, in order return to them to the photographer

Please call Mrs. Papalia in the school office at 617.993.5600 if you have any questions.

SUPPORT WELLINGTON DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON!

- ***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>

- ***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!

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 kids 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 bags; they can't be recycled and produce a great deal of daily lunch waste
- choose juice bottles over pouches; juice pouches and straws cannot be recycled
- encourage kids 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've 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, so bringing your own reusable bags to the store is the best way to reduce pollution, but 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, so 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

