



The Wellington News

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Important Dates:

- **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)
- **January 31:** Informances for Third and Fourth Graders; (More information to follow)

Dear Wellington Families,

We are saddened to let you know that **Mrs. Sue Tudisco**, a dedicated Wellington Professional Aide, has decided to retire mid-year in order to take care of her ailing mother. Her last day will be Friday, December 23, 2016. This was an extraordinarily difficult decision for Mrs. Tudisco, but we support her decision in putting her family first. Whether or not you *actually know* Mrs. Tudisco, I can tell you that she has had a positive impact on your child's life.

Sue Tudisco is the type of employee whose behind-the-scenes work played a vital role not only with individual students, instructionally, but in our overall school operations! Her work literally impacted all corners of our school. Mrs. Tudisco is a team player who **consistently** and dedicatedly went above and beyond the call of duty for students and her fellow employees on a daily basis. To say that our school will not be the same without Mrs. Tudisco's considerate and exceptionally effective work would be an understatement.

Please join us in thanking Mrs. Tudisco for her twenty-one years of selfless service to the Belmont Public Schools and Wellington Elementary. She will be sorely missed by everyone.

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

Amy (and Sarah)

Nurse's Notes: STREP THROAT season is here!

Please monitor your children for sore throat (in the absence of stuffy nose), fever and swollen neck glands. The strep bacterium may be to blame. This infection will require a visit to the doctor for culture and antibiotics. Your child must stay home until a FULL 24 HOURS of medication have been given at appropriate intervals. Please let me know if your child has strep throat so that I can keep track of the cases occurring here. Feel free to call me with questions at 617-993-5606. Terry Grimm RN

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 them. 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!

PTO News:

A full PTO 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 children and his/her 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:

Registration for Winter ASE Classes will begin on January 4th! Are you looking for things to engage your child during the cold winter months? Look no further than the

Winter ASE Course offerings! Registration for winter courses will open the week after Winter Break. We have many returning favorites including After School Sports, Chess Club, American Girl History, Jr. Lego Design Engineering, Watertown Children's Theater, iPad Art, Nature Detectives and more. Our volunteer team is working hard to bring you new and exciting options like Video Game Design, Knitting, and Lego Engineering Challenge!

Preview the course offerings on January 3rd at:
<http://wellington.recdesk.com/recdeskportal/>

2017 Wellington Skate Night is coming!!! Please mark your calendars now - Skate Night is the Friday after Winter Break! Join Wellington families for a fun free night of skating - Friday, January 6th from 7pm - 9pm. Grab your skates and some friends and warm up with a cup of hot chocolate. Sorry, no skate rentals.

ENRICHMENT:

Our third graders received a recent visit from Pat Bade, also known as the Owl Woman. She engaged the children as a storyteller of Native American (Penobscot) legends. Her interactive presentation also included drumming and singing in Native tongues and the viewing of many beautiful artifacts, crafts and articles from nature. A treat for all and an experience that worked well with our current Social Studies unit!



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, clean and clear sandwich bags, dry cleaning bags, clean 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

Community News:

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.