

The Wellington News

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Annemarie Stewart
Interim
Principal

January 29, 2018

Important Dates:

- **January 2-31:** PTO "Helping Hands" Gift Card / Coat Drive
- **January 31:** 1:40 dismissal
- **February 2:** Gwen Irish Comfy Cozy Day
- **February 5:** General PTO Meeting, 7pm with special guest presenters from Wellington's Green Team
- **February 7:** PTO Green Committee Meeting, 8:45am (Wellington cafeteria)
- **February 9:** Fine Dining Day
- **February 9:** PTO Multicultural Night, 6pm

Dear Wellington Families,

I can't believe we are already at the end of January. This month has flown by! This Friday, February 2, will be our annual **Gwen Irish Comfy Cozy Day** at Wellington Elementary School. This means that all children may wear his/her pajamas to school and that we are collecting funds for Cradles to Crayons, an organization that purchases pajamas for children in need. The recommended donation is one dollar per child or sending in a pair of new pajamas. Making a donation is completely **optional** and children may wear their pajamas to school regardless of whether or not they make a donation.

An email was sent last Friday, January 26, with detailed instructions on how to view your child's report card. If you have not been able to access this report card online, please let your child's classroom teacher know.

As always, please let me know if there is anything I can do to help your child at Wellington.

And, how are the children? Well, very well indeed.

Annemarie

Attendance: This is the time of year when **absences** begin to accumulate. Please remember that compulsory daily attendance at school is applicable to children in Massachusetts

starting at age 6. This includes being on time for school. At Wellington, attendance letters are sent home once a student reaches 5 or more absences within a one month period.

If you have questions or concerns about an attendance letter please contact your child's teacher. Below are our attendance reporting procedures:

- **Attendance Reporting Process:** All absent and tardy students need to be reported to the office so we do not worry about the whereabouts of our students. To report an absence or tardy, please call the school as soon as you become aware that there will be an absence or tardy by **calling our 24 hour automated system at 617-993-5602**. Tardy students arriving **after 8:45 AM** must be checked-in at the main office by an adult. **Note: Instruction at Wellington Elementary School begins at 8:40AM each day.**
- **Additional Attendance Information:** Please see below for helpful information regarding attendance from the Belmont Public Schools website.

<http://www.belmont.k12.ma.us/bps/Administration/Publications/Student-Absence-and-Truancy>

Thank You: A tremendous thank you to the volunteers who came to help at the **Wellington Library** for our mid-year shelf-reading event. Our thanks goes to Sue Garland, Lucia Antras, Yamini Howe, Amanda Mitzel, Erin Lubien, Meryl Junk, Cristina Bim, Mari Brito and Katri Toikka! Together, we dusted and cleaned, and volunteers checked over shelves to make sure the books were in order. Titles with illegible spine labels were pulled so that new ones could be printed. This work helps to keep the library running smoothly. We appreciate everyone's willingness and enthusiasm to help out at this mid-year event.
– Rose O'Neil and Jitka Raidl, Wellington Library

Fine Dining Day: We are looking for musicians for our Fine Dining Day for **Friday, February 9th**. All instruments are welcomed and appreciated! If you, or someone you know, would be interested in playing the piano or any musical instrument during the hours of 11:25AM to 1:35PM (with 15 minute breaks every half-hour) please let Kaitlyn Kennedy know. Thank you for consideration to share your talents with our students! Email: kkennedy@belmont.k12.ma.us

Appropriate Footwear Reminder: Please remember to have your child wear **sneakers** on the days they have Physical Education class! Sneakers/athletic shoes provide a safe level of support for running, jumping and turning activities that other shoes do not offer. If your child prefers to wear a different type of shoe such as boots, flip-flops, crocs, dress shoes, etc., he/she can bring sneakers to school and change into them for P.E. class. If you have any questions about appropriate footwear for Physical Education please feel free to contact Mr. Giusti or Ms. Doherty.

Nurse's Notes: **Viruses (including flu) are around**

There have been reports of illnesses involving fevers, some including nasal congestion and cough. Some viruses can cause rashes on hands, face or belly. A child who is actively coughing/sneezing/blowing nose, or has a new rash, even in the absence of high fever, should spend some time at home resting, both for their benefit, and to help prevent the further spread of their illness to others in the school. Your child's doctor should advise you on when it is wise to resume school attendance. Viruses are spread through exposure by air from coughing/sneezing, from close contact, and from touching contaminated objects. Let's work together to keep their spread to a minimum!

Terry Grimm R

PTO News:

Fresh off the press, [click here](#) for the latest PTO Newsletter (also attached). Make sure to catch the Enrichment Spotlight on page 1 and the Upcoming Programs & Everyday Ways to Help on page 2!

Community News:

The FBE's Online Camp Auction is open for bidding!

From preschool programs to overnight camps, the FBE Online Camp Auction has something for every child. There are local offerings for a variety of age ranges and overnight options perfect for those children who wish to venture out of the area for camp.

Please visit the FBE's [Online Camp Auction](#) website for detailed descriptions of each camp offering including dates and restrictions and start bidding!

The FBE Online Camp Auction will close on Monday, February 5th at 8pm

Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to solidify your child's summer plans and thank you for your support of the FBE!

Questions: campauction@fbe-belmont.org

Nurtured Heart Approach Parent Workshop

Sam Healy, LICSW

Children get so much more when things are going wrong. This is the foundational error in conventional ways of parenting and school discipline. The Nurtured Heart Approach will bring you to understand how your best efforts may actually fuel the fire of challenging behavior – and how to make simple shifts that will change everything. The Nurtured Heart Approach® is a relationship-focused methodology founded strategically in The 3 Stands™ for helping children (and adults) build their Inner Wealth® and use their intensity in successful ways. It has become a powerful way of awakening the inherent greatness in all children while facilitating parenting and classroom success.

Tuesday, Feb. 6th

Burbank Elementary Cafeteria

6:30 - 8:00pm

Wellington

PTO

February 2018 Newsletter

PTO Co-Presidents: Lynne Standish & Meryl Junik

Interim Principal: Annemarie Stewart

Important Dates

January 2018

2-31 Helping Hands Drive

February 2018

2 Gwen Irish Comfy Cozy Day
5 General PTO Meeting, 7:00pm
7 Green Team Meeting, 8:45am
9 Multicultural Night, 6:00pm

March 2018

1-31 Box Tops Collection Contest
17 Winter Carnival
17 FBE Spring Fundraiser
23 Winter ASE Courses End

April 2018

12 Science Night

Full PTO Calendar:

belmont.k12.ma.us/wellington/pto

Presidents' Corner

Spring Programs! With a couple of snow days in the books, we're already counting down the days until spring! And our spring event coordinators have started planning already. From our Winter Carnival to Science Night, there's something for everyone. If you have a business that would like to sponsor our fundraiser please contact: [Kristina Cardello](#), [Lisa Engler](#), or [Amanda Mitzel](#). And stay tuned for details on how to register your 3rd/4th grader for a science team (only those grades complete projects, but the event is open to all and includes hands-on activities for all ages).

Green Team's February Newsletter [can be found here!](#)

Want to add the PTO Calendar on your device? You can copy and paste this link into any product that supports the iCal format: <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/h435iutm38ioscgmj13gi9nqls%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>

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

~ Lynne & Meryl

Enrichment Spotlight

First grade Weather Program: In early December, the Acton Discovery Museum visited Wellington and presented to the first graders. Her interactive presentation included measuring temperature change with ice and then hot water, making different types of clouds with shaving cream, acting out evaporation and condensation, singing about weather, and observing actual weather conditions outside. The amazing "grand finale" involved trapping fog created by dry ice in a fish tank. The first graders were super impressed!

Second Grade Author Visit: Also in December, author and illustrator Brian Lies visited the Wellington 2nd graders to read his *NY Times* best-selling book *Bats at the Beach* and describe his writing and illustrating process. After sharing the mediocre drawings that he had drawn in 2nd grade, Mr. Lies wowed the kids with full-page drawings and paintings that he created to complement his current and upcoming books. The highlight of his visit was an impromptu illustration defined by the suggestions from the class which will hang in each 2nd grade classroom as a reminder to them to: work hard on their writing, pay attention to the details, and have fun creating their own stories.



Upcoming Programs & Events

Helping Hands Drive – through January 31



We are so lucky to have such a kind, thoughtful and generous community at the Wellington School! We've already collected numerous coats and gift cards for local stores during our Coat Drive and Gift Card Drive. If you have any clean, gently used coats for any age, you can donate them in one of the boxes near Welly in the main core. Gift cards can be sent in an envelope marked "PTO Gift Card Drive" in your student's Communication Folder.

General PTO Meeting – February 5, 7:00pm

Please join us on Monday, February 5th at 7:00pm in the Community Room to hear updates from Interim Principal Stewart and the PTO on events and happenings here at Wellington. We are happy to have the Green Team present on their latest initiatives, including composting ideas and food waste at lunch. Hope to see you there!



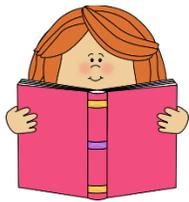
Multicultural Night – February 9, 6:00pm



Multicultural Night brings the community together to learn about and celebrate the many international cultures we have at Wellington. **Bring** your favorite dessert or baked good to share! **Explore** international *Song & Dance* at different country tables. **Discover** international cuisines at the dessert potluck. **Enjoy** a live performance by Senegalese drumming ensemble Rambax. This is a free community event, and dinner will be served! Any Questions? Email [April Julich Perez!](mailto:April.Julich.Perez)

Everyday Ways to Support Wellington

There are a number of "everyday ways" to support Wellington! All money raised is used for field trips, in-school enrichment, classroom supplies, equipment and more.



Wellington Library Wishlist Celebrating an occasion? Want to recognize someone special with a tangible item that will be enjoyed by many kids? Please consider donating to the *Wellington Library Gift Book Program*. With 25 classes visiting the library each week, our library collection is well utilized by students and staff. Visit the [library's webpage](#) and look under the Gift Book Program heading. Or go directly to the Library's Wishlist here: <http://a.co/beUyfsu>.

NOTE: If you would prefer to purchase locally, please just let us know, so we can remove the title from the Amazon Wishlist to avoid duplications. If you have other titles you would like to donate instead then please [contact the library volunteer coordinators!](#)



Collecting **Box Tops** is a fun and easy way to earn cash for our school with items you already buy! We'll hold a contest in March for which class can bring in the MOST Box Tops, so start collecting now!!



Are you an **Amazon.com** shopper? Shop via smile.amazon.com, and you can designate .5% of your purchase to benefit "Wellington Pto Inc"!



Mighty Nest, a great source for green items, donates 15% of purchases back to Wellington. For more information or to sign up, go to: tinyurl.com/wellingtonmightynest

Thank you to...

Emily Ferris, Jona Marashi, & Sharon Sullivan for organizing refreshments at last month's Sarah Ward Parent Program and to the parents who baked, bought, and delivered refreshments! Everyone in attendance was thankful for such a lovely assortment of treats!

Mike Reavey, Carol Berberian, and Debbie Mastrangelo for coordinating a fantastic Moira Gavin BINGO Night to benefit Wellington's music and arts enrichment programs. Everyone left with a fun prize, and we had several lucky raffle basket winners, too! Special thanks to Mr. McMahan for being an awesome emcee for the evening!

Library Shelf Read Volunteers for helping our librarians organize our growing collection! The librarians appreciated the help deep cleaning the shelves so that our students can share books, not germs!

