

# WELLINGTON

## PTO NEWS

October 2007

### Co-president's Message

Welcome! We hope the new school year is starting off well for all of your families.

**F**irst off, we'd like to extend special thanks to Amy Wagner and all the staff for helping our children make smooth transitions to their new classes. We'd also like to thank all the

parents who helped copy and collate the PTO packages for the first week of school, organized the welcome and library coffees and the ice cream social, helped with School Picture Day, the Student Directory and all the other early-fall activities.

It was terrific to see so many different people involved. We also greatly appreciated the delicious ice cream and helpful advice from Rancatores!

We served close to 700 bowls of ice cream on that lovely sunny afternoon last month.

As we look to the year ahead, we see the role of the PTO as two-fold: We raise needed funds for in-school enrichment programs, field trips, and classroom supplies and equipment; and we strive to offer programs and events that strengthen the sense of community within the school (through afterschool sports and enrichment classes, multicultural events, skating night, etc.) This year, the Executive Board decided to experiment and drop the fall giftwrap sale. Instead the PTO will sell Wellington long-sleeve t-shirts and sweatshirts, and the students are already busy in their art classes designing notecards that will be available for sale later this fall, just in time for the holidays!

We'd also like to extend our thanks to our wonderful custodians and the team from the School Department who spruced up the building over the summer with much cleaning, paint, and new carpet. These efforts make the school a cheerier and more welcoming environment, but still can't mask the need for a brand new building with efficient, modern heating and ventilation systems and space appropriately designed for elementary education. As many of you may know, in mid-August, the School Committee reaffirmed construction of a new Wellington as Belmont's top priority for school building projects. It's likely the debt exclusion vote for the new school will be on the ballot next spring, and parents will soon start organizing a grass-roots campaign effort. Please keep your eye out for upcoming announcements and encourage your friends and neighbors to get involved.

Please come to listen and learn what is going on at the Wellington! We need help planning upcoming events and welcome all new ideas and feedback. The first general PTO meeting is on Monday, October 15th. Coffee with the Principal is at 7:00 pm and the meeting will last from 7:30-9:00. Please come!! We look forward to working with you this year to enhance and enrich our children's education as best we can!

**Susan Black**

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## A Cool Start to the New School Year

Students, parents, guardians and siblings were treated to an afternoon "Ice Cream Social" at the Roger Wellington Elementary School on Monday September 17. The community event, sponsored by the Wellington PTO, offered multiple flavors and toppings all served up by parents and school staff.

The Wellington PTO sponsors numerous events throughout the year and welcomes the participation of all members of the Wellington community. All members of the Wellington Community are invited to join the Wellington PTO.



## A Busy Month for the PTO Hospitality Committee

The Hospitality Committee provides refreshments and drinks throughout the year for PTO meetings and functions, including General PTO meetings, Welcome Coffees, Library Coffees, a Room Parent Tea, and Curriculum Night. We also host a Read-a-Thon in November with popcorn, pretzels and hot chocolate. In the spring, we provide refreshments for Kindergarten Registration and Kindergarten Orientation. We also coordinate the food and drinks for the Staff Appreciation Lunch at the end of the school year.

September was been a busy time for the Committee. We hosted several Welcome Coffees for parents during the first week of school. The first was held outside in the beautiful weather on the first day of school for 1st-4th grades. It was so successful, we ran out of food! That's probably a first for this Committee. We also hosted a Library Volunteers Coffee and the Room Parents Tea. In addition, we provided coffee, tea and goodies at Curriculum Night on September 24th.

The Co-Chairs of the Committee this year are Melina Jacovides (melina@jacowag.net) and Celia Chun Zinssner (chun\_celia@hotmail.com). Thank you, Pam Alper and your crew, for all of your hard work the past 3 years! We have been busy compiling a list of volunteers to help provide food for events throughout the year. Please contact us if you are interested in participating. (Goodies can be homemade or bought!).

## PTO Sponsored Programs: There's Always Something Fun Happening at Wellington

Start your day off right with **BEFORE SCHOOL SPORTS**. Children will play their favorite games such as crazy kick-ball, basketball, soccer and more. Under the direction of Mr. S., before School sports will run from 7:30 a.m. to 8:20 a.m. *All grades will meet on Wednesday mornings*. The cost is 80 for an 8-week session; the sessions began October 10. Registration is underway, enrollment information and forms are available at the Wellington School website, outside the gym or by emailing susan.pergamo@verizon.net.

This fall and throughout the year we have some wonderful presenters coming to the school through the In-School Enrichment Program.

End the day right with **AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS**. It's a great way for boys and girls to have fun playing games such as soccer, basketball, and kick-ball in a supervised, low-

key environment. What better way to make NEW friends and develop athletic skills and physical condition. Under the direction of Mr. S., boys and girls will meet from 2:35 to 3:45 p.m. in the gym. *The program will start the week of October 16.*

- Tuesday – **Grade 2**
- Wednesday – **Grade 1**
- Thursday – **Grade 4**
- Friday – **Grade 3**

Enrollment forms were sent home in your child's backpack but are also available at the Wellington School website, outside the gym or by emailing .

Invite up to 30 of your child's closest friends to a **MR. S. PARTY!** All you have to do is send the invitations and bring the refreshments. *Leave the rest to Mr. S. and the kids – it is all fun!* Parties are held in the Wellington school Café and Gym. To schedule your child's party, call Sue @ (617) 943-4809.

**IN-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT** Juliet Jenkins and Jamison Jacobs, the co-chairs of VP Programs, have been meeting over the last few weeks to build on In-School Enrichment programs. This fall and throughout the year we have some wonderful presenters coming to the school. Look out for specific dates and times in the Wellington Weekly. Jedlie will be presenting his *anti-bullying program to an all school assembly.* ➔

PTO Programs continued . . .

The In-School Enrichment Coordinator for the Kindergarten is Carolyn Boyle. *The Kindergartners will be viewing the Tanglewood Marionettes and headed to Drumlin Farm* this year.

The In-School Enrichment Coordinator for the 1st grade will be Victoria Campos. *The first graders will be learning about weather this fall with Steve Lechner and later in the school year they will be headed to the Franklin Park Zoo.*

The In-School Enrichment Coordinators for the 2nd Grade this year will be Melina Jacovides and Carolyn Boyle. So far this fall, *the second graders are anticipating the return of Monica Driscoll Stuart, a local author, to coincide with Writer's Workshop.* This program has been very popular for our budding second grade authors, as Ms. Stuart teaches them about writing and publishing books and includes props from her own professional experience. We are looking forward to more wonderful programs throughout the school year.

The In-School Enrichment Coordinators for the 3rd grade will be Victoria Campos and Chris McVay. *The third graders will be welcoming Patricia Bade, The Owl Woman this fall.* The third grade field trip will take the students back to the early colonial days as they will be headed to the *Plimouth Plantation in Plymouth, MA.*

The In-School Enrichment Coordinator for the 4th grade will be Alyson Conover. *The fourth graders this winter will be involved in Wingmasters. The field trip for the grade will be to the Museum of Natural History.* All of these exciting programs and field trips are provided by the PTO. The PTO funds one field trip per grade, tickets, admissions and all buses for field trips. These are just a few of the events that will be happening throughout the year; please check the Wellington Weekly for specific dates and time.



## PTO Fundraising Partners

### Target Take Charge of Education® Program

Do you have a Target REDcard or VISA? Then you can help raise money for the Wellington school! Just visit [target.com/tcoe](http://target.com/tcoe), or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate our school (Wellington's ID number is 58744). Wellington receives a percentage of the amount of each purchase in the form of a cash donation from Target. If you haven't already taken advantage of this great program, sign up today. Right now we have 50 people signed

up, let's see how many more we can add! *If you have any questions about this program, please contact Kathy Fahey at or 617-932-1640.*

### Amazon Associate Plan

Buying Halloween costumes or supplies online this month? Don't forget that you can access Amazon.com through the Wellington PTO website and all purchases raise money for Wellington. *Just go to and click on the Amazon link.*

### Shaw's/Star Market Gift Cards

Purchase gift cards from the PTO for your grocery shopping and earn 5% for enrichment programs, activities and supplies for Wellington school. Order forms available at the PTO's donation station bulletin board, on the website and in the office. *Contact Patty Guzikowski (484-4784, [pguzi@msn.com](mailto:pguzi@msn.com)) or Susan McLaughlin (489-6078, [cerm5@verizon.net](mailto:cerm5@verizon.net)) for more information. We deliver the cards to your door!*

### Calling All Volunteers!

Interested in fundraising? Looking for a way to contribute but don't have a lot of time to spend at the school? We have the perfect opportunity for you! We need volunteers to oversee the Amazon Associates and School Pop programs which are mainly managed at home and on the computer. *If you are interested, please contact Kathy Fahey at or 617-932-1640.*



## Box Tops for Education

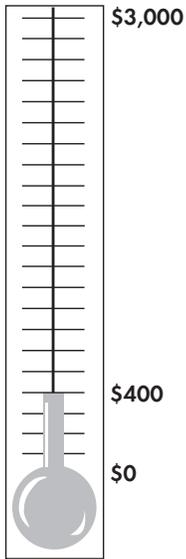


**General Mills Box Tops for Education has helped America's schools earn over \$200 million since 1996. Our school can earn up to \$60,000 every year through Box Tops- that's as much as \$20,000 from each of these three ways to earn:**

- Clip Box Tops from your favorite products (.10 each)
- Shop at over 60 of your favorite online stores (1-8% donation)
- Buy books through the Box Tops bookclub (1 box top per dollar spent)

Wellington's goal this school year is to earn **\$3,000** through the Box Tops program. So far, we have earned \$400. ➔

Box Tops continued . . .



Wellington's goal this school year is to earn \$3,000 through the Box Tops program.

Wellington ranks 758 out of the 2,106 schools registered in MA. State percentile: 63. National percentile: 66.

Submission deadlines are Oct. 31st and February 28th. Wellington will receive checks in December and April for this school year.

Visit [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com):

- Wellington's earnings report
- Latest box top participating product list
- Valuable coupons
- Easy recipes
- Useful Family Matters articles
- Fun projects for kids
- Bonus box top promotions

Parents can either send their Box Tops in with their child in an envelope labeled "Box Tops" or they can drop them in the large pink Box Tops receptacle in the 1st floor lobby. It is currently by the PTO bulletin board. **Thanks!**

If you have any questions about this fundraising program, please contact [jane.slavin@verizon.net](mailto:jane.slavin@verizon.net).



## Calling All Library Volunteers!

**T**hanks to those parents who attended our recent library volunteer coffee. With your support, we will be able to provide valuable library services and assistance to all classes. While our parent library volunteer program is off to a successful start, there will continue to be opportunities for those wishing to join us, throughout the year. We can be very flexible in meeting

your busy schedule and any and all time contributions are greatly valued.

A full description of volunteer opportunities can be found on the Library Webpage on the Wellington website:

<http://www.belmont.k12.ma.us/wellington/index.html>

For volunteer information, please contact:

Jitka Raidl • Library Aide  
JRaidl@belmont.k12.ma.us

Christel Libenson • Library Volunteer Coordinator  
Christel4@gmail.com

Annette Romagna • Library Volunteer Coordinator  
Annette1028@aol.com

## Gift Book Program

Support for the Gift Book Program was tremendous last year! **We added 213 new books to Wellington's library!** Total value of \$2,432. A special bookplate was added to each new book commemorating a person or occasion.

We would like to thank the following people who purchased books for Wellington's library:

- Baker, Eloise**.....The Empty Envelope, Ruby Lu:  
Empress of Everything, Sonar,  
and The Trouble with Tink
- Call, Nicholas**.....Jokelopedia
- Cheng, Eiko**.....One Green Apple
- Conover-Prentiss, Elizabeth**..Escape of Oney Judge,  
The Invisible Dog
- Croce, Ellis**.....The Librarian from the  
Black Lagoon, Travis Pastrana
- Denison, Gavin**.....Zen Shorts
- Denison, Graham** .....Wise Guy
- Dent, Julie** .....On My Honor
- Donovan, Justin**.....BabyMouse Rock Star
- Farrell, Liam**.....Flat Stanley
- Guzikowski, Lucia**.....Dwayne Wade, Taking Wing
- Hardy, Nicholas** .....Dale Earnhardt Jr., LeBron James
- Hayner, Tess**.....Room One: A Mystery or Two
- Jenkins, Maddie &  
Pergamo, Michael** .....Destination Detectives Mexico
- Klingbeil, Annierose**.....Meet Gail Carson Levine
- Linssner, Benoit**.....Komodo Dragons
- Moroney, Morgan**.....Little Lost Bat
- Murphy, Carolyn**.....Cork and Fuzz, Are Trees Alive?  
and Goldie and The Three  
Bears →

*Gift Book Program continued . . .*

- Romagna, Dana .....Kumak’s Fish, The Salmon Princess
- Schmelzer, Ben .....Ben and Me, Stormbreaker: Behind the Scenes
- Silverfine, Ari .....Mesoamerican Mythology
- Sung, Dong-Min & family .....Down the Yukon, Remembering Mrs. Rossi
- The Yellow Ducks .....Ocean, and Pirate
- Thidemann, Eleanor .....Sky Boys
- Vernick, Daniel .....The Adventures of Marco Polo, Big Alaska
- Vernick, Maya .....Big-Enough Anna, Anatole and The Cat
- Viale, Joe .....Almost Gone
- Wagner, Evan .....New York, New York, and Recess at 20 Below
- Wetzel, Helena .....Transformed, Punished, and This Place is Wild, East Africa

The PTO and the library staff have pre-purchased needed books for you to choose from.

*Please stop by the library or call Jane Slavin (617-489-1499) or Anne-Sophie Dankens (617-489-9101) if you would like to make a purchase or if you have questions.*

## Thank you!



## “Let’s Dance!”

**October 22nd is "Let's Dance" at the Wellington. Get your dancing shoes on come have some fun. The festivities run from 5:30 to 7:30.** Highlights include Mr. S teaching us some fancy moves the first hour. We'll do the Macarena and Funky Chicken among other crowd favorites.

From 6:30 to 7:30, DJ DQ (Wellington Alum Daniel Quinn) is coming “back to the old school” to spin some tunes for the crowd. Pizza, chips and water will be available for purchase throughout the evening and the 4th grade send off committee will have a bake sale for dessert. Cost is \$3.00 per person with a maximum \$10.00 family contribution. **Questions? Want to help? Contact Heidi Sawyer or Lynn Findlay for details.**

## The Wellington Multicultural Committee

**The Wellington Multicultural Committee invites everyone to join us for a fun evening on Monday, December 10th.** Bring your favorite dish for a Potluck dinner, and learn about how children get to school around the world. In your country do children walk, bike, ride a bus, or drive a dogsled? Are there more cars or bikes on the road? What animals are used to bring children to school? Water buffalo, horse, donkey, elephant? How will children get to school in the future?

The Wellington Multicultural Committee presents several events each year designed to explore the many cultures represented in our school, whether by heritage or by interest. We always have great food and lots of fun learning from one another.

*If you would like to help organize this or any other events, please contact Suzanne Johannet (sjohannet@yahoo.com), Saskia Kenselaar (kenselaar@verizon.net) or Celia Chun (Chun\_celia@hotmail.com)*



## Wellington T-shirts

### Show your Wellington School Spirit!

By wearing a new Wellington hooded sweatshirt or a long sleeved T-shirt. Many sizes are selling out fast so get yours now! While supplies last! Perfect gift for your student, birthday present, teacher appreciation etc!

**Grey Hooded sweatshirts**  
Adult and Kid sizes.....\$20.00

**White Long sleeved T-shirts**  
Kid sizes.....\$10.00  
Adult sizes.....\$12.00

**They will be for sale on:**

- Monday October 15th at the general PTO meeting
- Monday October 22nd at “Let's Dance” from 5:30–7:30
- Monday December 3rd at the general PTO meeting

*Or you can always pick up an order form in the office. Or have one emailed to you by emailing Heidi.sawyer@verizon.net.*

# ••••• Schedule of Events •••••

Monday, October 15

## **PUMPKIN FEST • 3-4PM**

*(Denise Madden 489-7478)*

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Monday, October 15

## **PTO GENERAL MEETING • "Get to know your PTO"**

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Monday, October 22

## **LET'S DANCE • 5:30-7:30**

*(Heidi Sawyer 489-2507 and Lynn Findlay 489-1171)*

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Early November

## **ART CARD SALE**

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November 14-November 16

## **BOOK FAIR**

*(Ellen Kassaraba 484-0926, Anne Helgen 489-1102,  
Laurie Slap 484-9242) Need Volunteers*

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Wednesday, November 14

## **PIZZA NIGHT/BOOK FAIR**

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## **NOVEMBER FALL FOOD DRIVE**

*(Hank Thidemann 489-2939)*

•••••

Monday, November 26

## **4th ANNUAL READATHON**

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Monday, December 10

## **MULTICULTURAL EVENT**

*(Suzanne Johannet 484-5073, Celia Chun 480-0158, Saskia Kenselaar)*



# Pumpkins!

There will be a pumpkin sale at the Wellington on Monday October 15 from 3-4.