WEBSTER HILL CONNECTION

October 20, 2016

Dear Families,

This abbreviated *Connection* contains updates and dates to remember. The abbreviated version will alternate with the regular edition of our newsletter every two weeks. Our next regular issue will be published on November 3, 2016.

Dates to Remember …

Oct. 20	**Farmer's Market**	**3:00**	
Oct. 21	**Gr. 5 Returns from Nature's Classroom**		
Oct. 24	**Gr. 4 Field Trip**	**9:00-1:45**	**Westmoor Park**
	Running Club	**3:20-4:30**	
Oct. 25	**Cultural Council Performance**		**Auditorium**
Oct. 26	**Gr. 2 Field Trip**	**9:00-11:45**	**Westmoor Park**
	Mad Science	**2:00-3:00**	**Room 3**
Nov. 1	**Bus Evacuation Drill**	**9:00-11:30**	**Front Circle & Rm. 3**
Nov. 2	**Mad Science**	**2:00-3:00**	**Room 3**
Nov. 3	**E.G.G. Meeting**	**3:30-4:15**	**Room 9**
Nov. 4	**E.G.G. Meeting**	**7:45 am**	**Room 20**
Nov. 7	**Running Club**	**3:20-4:30**	
Nov. 8	**Election Day / School Closed**		
Nov. 9	**Picture Retake Day**		
	Mad Science	**2:00-3:00**	**Room 3**

Read in the Gym On Thursday mornings!

Read in the Gym will begin on October 20 from 8:00 am-8:30 am in the gym. All interested students (PreK-5) are invited to come before school every Thursday to READ! This is a great opportunity for students to boost their love of reading. Please be sure to bring a book and be ready to enjoy the time in the gym.

ELC Lottery Applications

The Early Learning Center at Whiting Lane School and Aiken Elementary School is now accepting applications for the 2017-2018 school year. The program is family centered and has half day sessions that meet four days a week. A lottery will be conducted in January.

To be considered for the program, children must be three years old by September 1, 2017, toilet-trained by the start of the school year and exhibit age-appropriate language, social and play skills. All applicants must participate in a play-based screening prior to being considered for the lottery selection. If you are interested, please contact Pam Macca at (860) 233-1455. The application process will close on November 30, 2016.

Wee Deliver

Our Wee Deliver Post Office is open and delivers mail every Wednesday! Families are welcome to write letters to their child. Please drop off your letters for the mailbox in the main office. The following page contains all addresses.

Session #1
October 26th-November 16th

Postmaster	**Alexandra**	**5**
Asst. Postmaster	**Riley**	**5**
Nixie Clerk	**Oliver**	**4**
Facer	**Makayla**	**3**
Sorter	**Kiley**	**4**
Canceller	**Humaira**	**2**
Mail Carrier	**Gabriella**	**3**
Mail Carrier	**Payton**	**2**

Webster Hill School Addresses for Wee Deliver
2016-2017

Name	Address
Mr. Wallowitz	100 Beluga Avenue
Ms. Zaffina	100 Beluga Avenue
Mrs. Valleries	100 Beluga Avenue
Mrs. Hussey	100 Beluga Avenue
Mrs. Jones	100 Beluga Avenue
Mrs. Cohen	101 Beluga Avenue
Mrs. Bintz	100 Beluga Avenue
Mr. Tavera	102 Beluga Avenue
Mrs. Bender	102 Beluga Avenue
Mrs. Leopold – PreK	9 Beluga Avenue
Mrs. Burnett– Pre K	9 Beluga Avenue
Mrs. Anderson – K	1 Beluga Avenue
Mrs. Labriola– K	4 Beluga Avenue
Mrs. L'Etoile - K	2 Beluga Avenue
Mrs. Golden– K	1 Beluga Avenue
Mrs. Corrigan - K	4 Beluga Avenue
Ms. Lamothe - K	2 Beluga Avenue
Ms. Chapdelaine – 1	6 Beluga Avenue
Mrs. Kucia - 1	7 Beluga Avenue
Mrs. Mazur – 1	8 Beluga Avenue
Ms. Smith -1	6 Beluga Avenue
Mrs. Sweet-Dobrow – 2	15 Humpback Boulevard
Mrs. Stafford -2	16 Humpback Boulevard
Mrs. Burkey– 2	17 Humpback Boulevard
Mrs. Cabell– 2	18 Humpback Boulevard
Ms. Melley -2	16 Humpback Boulevard
Ms. Burnett -2	18 Humpback Boulevard
Mrs. Malkin -2	18 Humpback Boulevard
Ms. LaCombe -2	15 Humpback Boulevard
Mrs. Stolstrom– 3	10 Blue Drive
Mrs. Glidden – 3	11 Blue Drive
Mrs. Horn - 3	12 Blue Drive
Ms. Ruocco - 4	13 Humpback Boulevard
Mrs.Simpson / Mr. Downey – 4	19 Bowhead Highway
Dr. Wells – 4	23 Bowhead Highway
Mrs. Clark - 4	21 Bowhead Highway
Mrs. Micari -4	21 Bowhead Highway
Mr. Cowan – 5	20 Bowhead Highway
Mrs. Kotler – 5	22 Bowhead Highway
Mrs. Zyzdorf- 5	24 Bowhead Highway
Mr. Bette	218 Humpback Boulevard
Mrs. Melchor	218 Humpback Boulevard
Mrs. Hambrecht	218 Humpback Boulevard
Mrs. Galli	215 Humpback Boulevard

WEE Deliver Addresses Continued

Mrs. McFadden	215 Humpback Boulevard
Mrs. Lewis	215 Humpback Boulevard
Mrs. Snyder	19 Humpback Boulevard
Mrs. Vogel	219 Humpback Boulevard (Math Garden)
Mrs. Policelli	219 Humpback Boulevard (Math Garden)
Mrs. Martin	302 Finn Lane
Mrs. November	102 Beluga Avenue
Dr. Civetelli	13 Blue Lane
Ms. Clement	215 Humpback Boulevard
Mr. Kueffner	5 Beluga Avenue
Mr. Green	303 Finn Lane
Ms. Nix	299 Finn Lane
Ms. Rooklidge	299 Finn Lane
Senora Hunt	14 Humpback Boulevard
Mr. Geisler	216 Humpback Boulevard
Mr. Joseph	216 Humpback Boulevard
Mrs. Boehm	25 Bowhead Highway
Ms. Denello / Mrs. Murphy	25 Bowhead Highway
Mrs. Bailly	102 Beluga Avenue
Mrs. Zetoff	301 Finn Lane
Mr. Staley	One Orca Science Center Lane
Cafeteria	Cafe Humpback Boulevard
Mr. Johnson, Mr. Bettencourt	Custodian's Office Humpback Blvd.

Officer Irene Leonard, our Community Officer will be visiting class-rooms pre-K- grade 5 over the next few weeks to teach the following topics:

PK & K Officer Recognition
Grade 1 Pedestrian Safety
Grade 2 Building Character
Grade 3 Substance Abuse
Grade 4 Responsible at Home
Grade 5 Substance Abuse II

Dear Families,

I hope you are all doing well and enjoying this fabulous autumnal weather! The leaves on our trees are becoming more vibrant, changing colors as they continue to grow-and so are we. As a district and school we continually seek to improve *how* and *what* we teach. Mr. Wallowitz and I spoke at the PTO meeting this week about exciting updates to curriculum and instruction. I invite you to read some of the highlights that are currently underway.

Here in West Hartford Public Schools we are fortunate to have teachers and administrators work to write and revise the curriculum so that it is most effective for our students. Over the summer a variety of curricula was revised across all grade levels.

Math units for Grades 3-5 were revised to include Performance Tasks (also known as learning activities) that ask students to demonstrate their knowledge of concepts have been updated. These learning activities provide students with opportunities to develop problem solving skills and real world application. Tasks for each unit are aligned with the standards within the current unit and/or previously learned concepts and skills.

We have also made changes to our Social Studies curriculum across grade levels. We are focusing on two of the four strands of social studies (geography and civics). The civics units are geared toward helping students develop an understanding of self as well as the rights and responsibilities of citizens in a community. Lessons will focus on helping students to identify and understand how to regulate their emotions and developing positive interpersonal relationships. There has also been more intentional focus to integrate social studies as part of the Writers' Workshop lessons. In geography, students will explore maps and their purposes, identify where they live, locate important places on current and historical maps; use maps to identify important information using symbols, legends, and keys; give and follow directions; and create a variety of maps.

We are excited about these curricular changes and additions to ensure our students have more opportunities to connect to the greater world, and demonstrate their learning in authentic and hands on ways! If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 860-521-0320 ext 5802.

All the best,
Sabrina Zaffina
Curriculum Specialist

Webster Hill School
FARMER'S MARKET

-Local Produce
-Fresh Bread
-Honey
-Maple Syrup
-Farm Fresh Eggs
-Tastings

Restaurant Bricco and Grant's Chef

Billy Grant

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20th 3:00pm

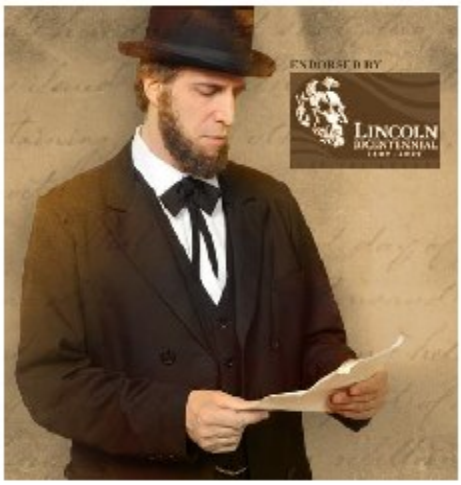
Front Lawn of School

Rain or Shine

The West Hartford Cultural Council presents:

LOU DEL BIANCO IN "ABE LINCOLN: FROM RAILSPLITTER TO PRESIDENT"

WEBSTER HILL STUDENT PERFORMANCE: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25TH



Just in time for Election Day, actor-storyteller Lou Del Bianco portrays Abraham Lincoln as Civil War President, frontiersman and storyteller. Lincoln's values… honesty, love of family, thirst for education, sense of justice and perseverance shine through this dynamic theatrical presentation.

"Few performers excel as both storyteller and musician, but Lou Del Bianco is one who does."
- PARENTS CHOICE MAGAZINE
Click here for more information about Lou and his show!

PLEASE VISIT (AND LIKE!) THE CULTURAL COUNCIL'S FACEBOOK PAGE

The Family Resource Center presents

Early Learning Playgroup at Webster Hill

A program for children ages birth through four accompanied by a parent or caregiver. Join us for crafts, stories, songs, snack and fun! No charge to attend.

We will meet **Tuesday** mornings from **10:00 am to 11:00 am**.

Fall 2016 Playgroup will meet:

October 4
October 18
October 25
November 1
November 15
November 22
November 29
December 6

*No session 10/11 & 11/8

For more information call *Family Resource Center* at 860-929-5575

Early Learning Playgroup at Webster Hill School in West Hartford is funded in part by
The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. The Family Resource Center is a program of the **Bridge Family Center**

West Hartford Special Education PTO
October - November 2016 Events

Thank You!

Raise Some Dough for SEPTO at Harry's Bishops Corner was a GREAT success!

WHSEPTO thanks everyone who came to support our fundraiser at Harry's Bishops Corner. With your help we were able to raise $500!!! Special thanks of course go out to Anne and Kevin owners of Harry's Bishops Corner for hosting event and welcoming us with open arms!

Wednesday, October 19 at 7pm

"Social Thinking: Thinking about YOU Thinking about ME" a Review with Michelle Tremblay Lacroix, Jenna Santangelo and Emily Stoner

On March 9, 2016, West Hartford Public School professionals attended the Michelle Garcia Winner conference "Thinking About YOU Thinking about ME through the generous funding of SEPTO. Michelle Tremblay Lacroix, Jenna Santangelo and Emily Stoner will be presenting the information they learned regarding Social Thinking Methodology. The discussion will focus on what Social Thinking is and how Social Thinking Instruction enhances / improves social communication & interactions as well as academic performance.
Location: Sedgwick Middle School, 128 Sedgwick Road, West Hartford (Enter through Wardwell Rd entrance)

Friday, November 4 from 9:30am to 10:30am

"Coffee & Conversation" at Panera in Bishops Corner

The first **Friday** of the month, parents of children receiving special education services meet for coffee and a chance to talk & make new friends in a casual setting. We generally meet in the back of the restaurant.

Wednesday, November 30 at 7pm

"OT & PT: Differences and Similarities with Amy Alexander and Tess Dagenais

There is often confusion about these two and some even think that they are synonymous. There are significant differences between PT and OT and there are also many grey areas where the two overlap. Occupational Therapist, Amy Alexander and Physical Therapist, Tess Dagenais will be discussing the similarities and differences between Occupational Therapy (OT) and Physical Therapy (PT) and hope to help parents better understand how they work to help children. This is Amy's 7th year working in the West Hartford School system. Tess graduated from Boston University in 1985 with a Master's Degree in Physical Therapy and a concentration in pediatrics and has worked in the West Hartford public school system for the last 22 years.
Location: Sedgwick Middle School, 128 Sedgwick Road, West Hartford (Enter through Wardwell Rd entrance)

Ongoing

Membership Drive

It's always the right time to join West Hartford SEPTO! Please register online at www.whsepto.org/membership.html

www.WHSEPTO.org

Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/West-Hartford-SEPTO

THE BRIDGE FAMILY CENTER

SCHOOL EDITION AUTUMN 2016

Every Family

EVERY FAMILY. EVERY CHILD. EVERY TIME.

Progressive Conversations

Parents, you have a challenging job these days. Changes in society are launching you into frank conversations with your children well before you may feel prepared to have them. You may also be uncomfortable talking about mature topics, or not know where to start. Don't worry. You can rise to your challenge by developing a mindset for progressive conversations.

Think ahead to what your child will need to know when he or she is older, then back those conversations out into manageable chunks beginning when your child is young. This will allow you time to ease into more serious topics and get comfortable with clear, informative conversation. Unsure what to say? Remember: information is powerful. Kids can do a lot with information. They can embrace it, debate it, or even ignore it--but they can't unlearn it. Tell it to them straight. You will be giving them what they need when faced with their own decisions. Let's look together at what a progressive conversation about drugs might sound like.

Peter Perrotta, MS LADC
(Licensed Alcohol & Drug Counselor)

YOUNG CHILDREN: DECISION MAKING

People may try to get you to do things you don't want to do. Never take medication from anyone but a parent or doctor. Some drugs help your body, but some hurt it. Reinforce that drugs can be harmful.

ELEMENTARY CHILDREN: CONTEXT

Why do people take drugs? Some drugs make you feel happy or relaxed when you feel sad or stressed. For example, your mind might think, "Get me out of right here, right now." Drugs might help for a bit, but then they make you feel worse. Talk about how some drugs smell funny and look like cigarettes, and some are in medicine cabinets. Role play how to say no and how to talk to adults about things they have seen.

TWEENS: GET SPECIFIC

You may see weed, Ritalin, Vicodin, Oxycontin, Molly, cocaine, heroin, inhalants, alcohol, etc. These drugs will harm a developing brain. Give facts: A boy's brain isn't mature until age 25. A girl's at age 23. No pills. Pills can lead to heroin.

Talk about dependency and how the human body doesn't get a warning sign for when things tip from recreational use to dependency; it just tips into new, dark territory. And once things tip, it's hard to go back. For example, you can illustrate that a pickle can't go back to being a cucumber.

TEENS: GET REAL

Talk about withdrawal and look at pictures. Read about local examples of teens who got addicted and died from overdoses. Discuss what people are doing to get drugs: prostitution, theft. Share drug-related events happening in Connecticut. Bring up homelessness and pregnancy, discuss socioeconomics. Don't be afraid to share real examples; your kids are living this.

If you start slowly and keep steady, conversations will progress, and you will be ready.

DO YOU SHOP AT STOP AND SHOP?
Yes
Do you want an easy way to earn money for our school?
New Recess Equipment
Yes
New Playground Equipment
Go To http://stopandshop.com/aplus
A+ School Rewards
for coordinators
for customers
Click on "Register Your Card"
register your card
sign in to register your card
first 3 letters of last name*
Stop & Shop Card number*
Type first 3 letters of last name
Type Stop and Shop card number
find a school ID# to select
already know your school's ID?
Type our school code: 06221
AND THAT'S IT!