



# Middlebrook PTA Full Messenger

November 24, 2019

## Middlebrook Quick Calendar

Monday & Tuesday	November	25 & 26	<b>Shortened School Day for Students:</b> Dismissal 12:30 p.m.--Parent Teacher Conferences
Wednesday - Friday	November	27 - 29	<b>NO SCHOOL:</b> Thanksgiving Break
Wednesday-Wednesday	December	4-11	MB Book Fair--LLC (see below for exact times)
Wednesday	December	4	Grade 6 Winter Concert & Art Exhibit

## Middlebrook Six Day Cycle

Monday	November	25	Day 4
Tuesday	November	26	Day 4 (repeated day)
Wednesday	November	27	No School
Thursday	November	28	No School
Friday	November	29	No School

## News From The PTA President

We've been busy in recent weeks, kicking off a new Pancake Breakfast event for all 8th grade students last week to help students and teachers bond over breakfast, focusing on our Annual Appeal to fund our programs and Gifts & Grants, revamping the Gifts & Grants program for teachers and staff, helping make Veteran's Day special with our hospitality event and collecting valuable parent feedback via our series of surveys. Thanks to all who have made these events and more possible. If you would like to get involved or learn more about what we do, please contact me at [cring226@hotmail.com](mailto:cring226@hotmail.com) I'd like to extend a thank you to the Turnover Shop for their incredible support of all of Wilton's PTAs annually. If you haven't visited their store, please stop in and also consider volunteering. Details on how to do so can be found below.

Another way to give back to the PTA is to register for the Stop & Shop A+ Rewards Program. You register, then shop as you normally would and Stop & Shop makes a donation directly to the school.

To register, visit <http://www.stopandshop.com/aplus> and scroll down to the center of the page, select REGISTER YOUR CARD from the red box on the right marked FOR CUSTOMERS.

-Chandra Ring

## **SCHOOL NEWS**

### **Middlebrook PTA Annual Appeal**

No more Walkathons... No more wrapping paper sales... No more bake sales ...

Does that sound like music to your ears?

It can all be possible, if each family donates at least \$40 per child to the 2019 Middlebrook Annual Appeal. Your donation will allow us to cover the cost of the upcoming 2019-2020 programs that will directly benefit each child at Middlebrook. Examples of past programs include:

**Fund Student Assemblies:** Visiting Author, Guest Poet, Birds of Prey, World Language Assembly.

**Provide safe, fun social opportunities:** Activity Nights, International Food Competition, Ice Cream Socials, 8th Grade Dinner Dance, Soaring Ahead.

**Curriculum Support:** We step in when the budget just isn't there for the school. Last year the PTA gave over \$21,000 towards our Gifts & Grants program. We've provided three cellos for the music department in the last two years, sponsored training for a staff member for "Where Everyone Belongs", purchased displays for the art department, and more!

Your donation to the appeal can make it possible to bring programs, activities, and grants to our children. We can't do this without you!

For ways to donate, please visit: <https://www.middlebrookpta.org/annual-appeal> or [PayPal Donation](#)

### **MB Book Fair**

We are currently looking for volunteers to run this event. Please sign up at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040b48aea92aa31-middlebrook>

Books arrive Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> and we will be open bright and early on December 4<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in visiting the book fair during the day we are open from 8:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. on December 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, and 11. Our vendor, Main Street Books, never fails to supply a wide variety of fiction and nonfiction titles - from the latest picture books to the most recent New York Times best sellers. Please stop by during the day or perhaps during one of our evening events on December 4<sup>th</sup> or December 11<sup>th</sup> (open before and after the Grade 6 and Grade 7 concerts). We hope to see you there!

### **MB Hospitality Winter Luncheon**

The Hospitality Committee will be hosting a luncheon for our wonderful staff members on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. Please click here

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F4CADAD22A3F94-mb\\_winter](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F4CADAD22A3F94-mb_winter) to make a food donation.

### **PTA Parent Surveys**

One of the primary focuses of the Middlebrook PTA this year is enhancing collaboration and communication with the teachers. As such, our Teacher Representative has worked with his peers to identify areas where parent feedback would be valuable. At present, we have developed a set of five surveys to garner parent feedback. The surveys examine a range of topics. The current topics we are seeking feedback on are Soaring Ahead <https://forms.gle/Z7tLxLm1ETEohmdn8> and Closing House <https://forms.gle/kqvr8ZixMUzosWpc9>. Please click on the links to complete the surveys. Any

questions please contact Kim Hall at [kimhall@rocketmail.com](mailto:kimhall@rocketmail.com)

### Science Fair

We are in the final weeks for students to get project approval for their Science & Engineering Fair projects! Friday, November 15th, is the final date to get your science teacher's approval for your project. Friday, November 22nd, is the final date to submit your [Registration & Approval Form](#).

All the information you need for the Science & Engineering Fair can be found on your Google Classroom or the [PTA Website](#).

The Middlebrook Science & Engineering Fair is jointly sponsored by the Middlebrook PTA and the Wilton Education Foundation. There are cash awards to be claimed by the top finishers in each category. Don't miss out!

For questions or additional information, contact Lorelee Hamilton or Uma Subramanian at [MiddlebrookScienceFair@gmail.com](mailto:MiddlebrookScienceFair@gmail.com).

### Reflections Contest

Each year, students in Pre-K through Grade 12 are invited to create and submit original works of art in the areas of Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography and Visual Arts. These works of art may be submitted for state and national level awards and recognition opportunities. This year's theme is: **Look Within**

Rules and how to enter can be found here: [http://bit.ly/2020Reflections\\_MB](http://bit.ly/2020Reflections_MB)

Feel free to contact Tree McDermott with any questions at [ptsa.mb.reflections@gmail.com](mailto:ptsa.mb.reflections@gmail.com).

### SEPTA (Special Education PTA)

Please find this month's newsletter here:

<https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmailchi.mp%2F612f31d6e132%2Fsepta-november-update-3658789&data=02%7C01%7C%7C5b17170ab9a74bad2a0708d76ba137dc%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637096212470690860&sdata=nrW8uljkXD3CqDf6iil5AuPN5iEJRPj0e8BKmqB9kuU%3D&reserved=0>

### MB Health Office

#### Health Requirements for Students Entering Grade 7 in Fall of 2020

In accordance with Connecticut State Law, the Wilton Board of Education requires that prior to the opening day of school, an appropriate health examination, including an immunization record, be filed in the health office. Prior to August 1, 2020, please submit a State of Connecticut (blue form, HAR-3). Please check to see that all asterisks on the State of Connecticut form are completed by the physician. The physical must be within 15 months of the first day of entering the 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

### Box Tops

You may have heard that Box Tops are going digital, meaning less clipping and submitting, all while making it even easier for families to earn money for their school. To donate box tops just follow a few simple steps:

1. Download the Box Tops (BTFE) app on your smartphone (only need to do this once).
2. Buy products with the Box Tops Logo.

3. Using the BTFE app, scan your receipt (within 14 days of purchase). The app instantly tells you whether any of your purchases earned monies for Middlebrook.

The app is quick to download and simple to use! We will, of course, continue to accept any of the “old” clipped box tops that families may have floating around their house. If you have any questions, please email Jennifer Acerra-Markey at [jtm4jla@optonline.net](mailto:jtm4jla@optonline.net).

### **Online PTA Membership and Directories**

Get instant access when you join – no waiting, easy updates to address or phone number changes throughout the year! Join at: [www.middlebrookpta.org](http://www.middlebrookpta.org)

It’s green, searchable and portable! Available on phones, tablets and computers!

Parents can update their profiles at any time.

One easy spot to register for all your kids’ PTAs and make a donation at the same time!

Questions? Email our Membership VP Donna Arnold at [mallorysleeping@gmail.com](mailto:mallorysleeping@gmail.com).

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **Wilton Turnover Shop**

The Turnover Shop needs volunteers! We are looking for several people to work at the front desk. The commitment is for a regular shift only once a month for 3 1/2 hours, September-June. Each year, The Turnover Shop gives generously to the Wilton PTAs, but we need your help to make this happen. Come join the fun and meet some new people in our community! Please send an email to [turnoverfrontdesk@gmail.com](mailto:turnoverfrontdesk@gmail.com) to get started.

### **Wilton Youth Council (WYC)**

WYC promotes and protects the social, emotional and mental well-being of Wilton's students by educating and empowering youth, parents and the community. Find us on FB or visit [wiltonyouth.org](http://wiltonyouth.org) for more information and to sign up for our monthly newsletter.

Want to get involved with Wilton Youth Council? We are looking for volunteers to join our fundraising committee and/or the Free Play Matters Task Force. If you are interested, contact Genevieve Eason at [geason@wiltonyouth.org](mailto:geason@wiltonyouth.org) for more information!

### **Vaping: What You Need to Know**

Date: Wednesday, December 11th, 2019

Time: 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Place: Trackside Teen Center of Wilton

Elizabeth Jorgensen, CADC, will discuss the short-term and long-term effects of vaping, nicotine, and marijuana use, and will explain the connection between addiction and underlying mental health concerns like anxiety and depression. Presented by Youth to Youth, Wilton Youth Council’s student leadership and substance use prevention club at Wilton High School (formerly Warrior Council). Visit [www.wiltonyouth.org/events](http://www.wiltonyouth.org/events) for more information. Sponsored by Newport Academy, Trackside Teen Center of Wilton, and Wilton Youth Council. Can't make it? This program will be offered again on January 15th at 10:00 a.m. at the Wilton Library.

### **Wilton Youth Council's Annual Appeal**

Did you receive our Annual Appeal letter in the mail? We hope you'll accept our invitation to become

one of the helpers! Together, we make our community a healthier, happier place for our children of all ages to grow. Respond to the letter, or donate through our website, [www.wiltonyouth.org](http://www.wiltonyouth.org). Thank you!

### **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)**

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Child and Adolescent Network (CAN) is a support group for parents of children with behavioral, emotional and mental health issues. The meeting is free, confidential, safe and led by trained volunteer facilitators who themselves have had personal experiences raising children with these concerns. Our meetings are a place to speak freely and be understood without embarrassment or the fear of being judged or treated differently. Parents come from Redding, Weston, Westport, Wilton and towns in the surrounding area. Our next meeting is November 25th, from 10:00-11:30 a.m. at The G&B Cultural Center, 49 New Street, Wilton. For more information: Beth at 203-984-0123 or [beth44es@gmail.com](mailto:beth44es@gmail.com) OR Vanessa at 203-970-4130 or [eliasvanessa5@gmail.com](mailto:eliasvanessa5@gmail.com).

### **MB Messenger Announcements:**

Have an important announcement to post in the MB Messenger? Please note that the messenger alternates bi-weekly between the "LITE," calendar based Messenger and the fuller edition. Requests must be in by Wednesday at noon to be included in the next FULL Messenger. To submit a request for a non-profit, school related announcement in the Messenger, please email: [middlebrookmessenger@gmail.com](mailto:middlebrookmessenger@gmail.com).