



Middlebrook PTA Full Messenger

December 8, 2019

Middlebrook Quick Calendar

Wednesday-Wednesday	December	4-11	MB Book Fair--LLC (see below for exact times)
Wednesday	December	11	Grade 7 Winter Concert Art Exhibit
Monday	December	16	Grade 8 Winter Concert Art Exhibit
Wednesday	December	18	Senior Center Visits: MB Singers/Student Council
Friday	December	20	Shortened Day: Dismissal at 12:30pm

Middlebrook Six Day Cycle

Monday	December	9	Day 4
Tuesday	December	10	Day 5
Wednesday	December	11	Day 6
Thursday	December	12	Day 1
Friday	December	13	Day 2

News From The PTA President

A huge thank you to all of the families that helped us reach our goal for this year's Annual Appeal. Your generosity allows us to continue our support of annual programs and meet the needs of teachers with our newly revamped Gifts & Grants program.

There are many opportunities for volunteering found in this newsletter. Nothing suits you? Reach out at cring226@hotmail.com and we can discuss other volunteer opportunities that may be a better fit. 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.

Finally, as you shop this holiday season consider supporting Middlebrook PTA on amazonmile.com -- simply shop as you always do and Amazon will send a check to Middlebrook PTA, returning your money to your school.

Don't forget to head to the Book Fair!

-Chandra Ring

SCHOOL NEWS

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

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 3rd and we will be open bright and early on December 4th. 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 4th or December 11th (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 13th. Please click here

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F4CADAD22A3F94-mb_winter to make a food donation.

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***

Submissions due on Jan. 6, 2020.

Rules and how to enter can be found here: http://bit.ly/2020Reflections_MB

Feel free to contact Tree McDermott with any questions at ptsa.mb.reflections@gmail.com.

SEPTA (Special Education PTA)

Please find this month's newsletter here:

<https://mailchi.mp/612f31d6e132/septa-november-update-3658789>

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 7th 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.

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

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.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Parenting Culture Study

With so many competing demands on today's families, between extracurricular activities and academic commitments, parents are confronted with a barrage of information about how to best raise their children. Wilton parents are invited to participate in 30-minute interviews held at Comstock Community Center between the weeks of December 16th and January 3rd for a study conducted by Amanda Eason, Sociology major, Santa Clara University and Wilton alumna.

This study, conducted with the consent of the district administration, will assess how parents in Wilton make decisions and manage their busy lives with the purpose of influencing key decision makers in the Wilton Public School system. Click here

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScLggkJW0vnMZqJcB3XdqzWF64q29UTa7ztKVbU0LvkKh59oQ/viewform> to sign up online. Questions should be directed to Amanda at aeason@scu.edu.

***Please note that this study is different from the surveys being done by the PTA.

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 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 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 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 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. Thank you!

Wilton Go Green

Families mark your calendar for Wilton Go Green's biggest event on Sunday, March 29th, 2020 when the Third Annual Zero Waste Faire & Sustainable Living Expo happens at the Wilton High School Field House from 11am to 4pm. Having had over 1,000 attendees and 70 exhibitors in 2019, WGG will feature even more aspects of a zero waste and sustainable lifestyle in depth. In partnership with Sustainne, the Faire committee will orchestrate exhibits at their 2020 event that are educational and interactive, with elements that attendees of all ages will enjoy. Subjects covered will include waste and resource management, waste prevention, backyard farming, a kids area, municipal best practices, zero waste hacks, sustainable living, and a Zero Waste Feast in the High School cafeteria provided by Chartwells. Stay tuned for news about opportunities to recycle or repurpose fabrics, electronics and other household items. Interested in helping out? Email us at info@wiltongogreen.org

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.