



## Middlebrook PTA Full Messenger

March 1, 2020

### Middlebrook Quick Calendar

Tuesday	March	3	Parents of Incoming 6th Graders Curriculum Night: 7:00-8:00 p.m.--MB Auditorium (Snow Date= March 9th)
Wednesday	March	11	<b>Shortened Day: Students dismissed at 12:30 p.m.</b>
Thursday	March	12	Brown Bag Lunch w/ Principal Feltz: 1:00-2:00 p.m.--Principal's Office

### Middlebrook Six Day Cycle

Monday	March	2	Day 4
Tuesday	March	3	Day 5
Wednesday	March	4	Day 6
Thursday	March	5	Day 1
Friday	March	6	Day 2

## SCHOOL NEWS

### MB International Food Competition

The World Language Department and PTA are hosting it's popular ***International Food Competition*** on **Wednesday, March 25th**, after school. All Middlebrook students are welcome to participate either as individuals or with a partner. They can choose to create a dish in one of 3 categories- Appetizers, Main Dish, or Dessert. Prizes will be awarded to the Top 3 dishes in each category! Students can go to [Entry Form](#) to sign up. There are only 35 spots in each category - first to enter will be given the spots, once a category is filled no more applicants will be except in that category. All entries need to be in by **March 18th. We are in need of some parent volunteers to help the event run smoothly!** This is your chance to check out the wonderfully talented chefs here at Middlebrook and even taste some of the yummy food after the event! Please click the [sign up Link](#) if interested.

### Zero Waste Committee

Our annual spring Zero Waste Week is coming up the week of March 23rd. Our Committee will be

celebrating how far we've come with our Zero Waste initiative and continuing to engage our students and staff with fun activities. **NEW:** Wednesday, March 25th, is *Waste Warrior Day!* We are asking our entire school community, that means parents, students, staff and administrators, to celebrate and acknowledge the work we are doing by wearing GREEN. You can wear as little or as much as you want but we'd love to see photos. Share on our CM Parent Community Facebook page or Twitter and be sure to tag both with #wiltonwayct #wastewarrior

### 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.

### Middlebrook Trip To France

July 7 - July 14, 2020

The world language department and the art department are organizing a trip to Paris, France this summer from July 7th until July 14th. This trip is open to **all** 7th and 8th graders and to **all** high school students, even if they are not taking French. Space is limited to 30 students. The chaperones for the trip will be Kimberly Cameron (Cider Mill French teacher), Sue LaBarbera (Middlebrook Art teacher), Bill Gerundo (Middlebrook Counselor) and Simon Bulenzi (Middlebrook French teacher).

We will be using ACIS (**American Council for International Studies**), the company the high school has worked with for the German trips for the past few years. The cost for the trip is approximately \$4,000. Here is more information about the trip:

[http://services.acis.com/webimages/PROD/2020/12744/FULFILL/1901346\\_glossy.pdf](http://services.acis.com/webimages/PROD/2020/12744/FULFILL/1901346_glossy.pdf)

Please RSVP to Simon Bulenzi at [bulenzis@wiltonps.org](mailto:bulenzis@wiltonps.org) and let him know if you can attend the meeting or if you are interested in the trip. Mr. Bulenzi grew up outside of Paris and took a group of students to France in 2004 (last France trip in Wilton) and he can't wait to share my culture and one of the most beautiful cities with your children. **Parents are welcome on this trip!** Please feel free to contact him directly with any questions.

### 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 money 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**

### **Budget Spotlight 2020**

There will be a Board of Finance Hearing on BoS and BoE Budgets on March 30th at 7:00 p.m. in the Middlebrook auditorium. For more information please use these links:

<https://www.wiltonps.org/about/board-of-education> (click on 2020-2021 Budget Documents) and

Good Morning Wilton [article](#)

### **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 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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](mailto:info@wiltongogreen.org)

### **Wilton YMCA**

#### **Register for the Wilton Family YMCA's Camp Gordyland**

Make Friends, Make Memories, Make a Difference! Registration for the Wilton Family YMCA's Camp Gordyland is currently underway. Campers at Gordyland learn life-lasting skills and foster friendships in a safe environment. The camp sits on 22 acres where you can enjoy a 50 meter pool, 25 yard indoor pool, pond with boating, mini-golf course, ropes course/climbing wall, 2 ball fields, fishing area, archery range, weekly swimming lessons and more! Don't miss out...drop in to chat with one of the experienced Camp Directors and get a tour or check out <https://www.wiltonymca.org/programs/summer-camp/> for more information.

### **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.

### **Ambler Farm**

**Ambler Farm Youth Apprentice Program Open House** (March 7th or March 14th @ 3:00 p.m.)

Come to Ambler Farm and learn about this extraordinary hands-on program for students in grades 5-12\*. Under the creative guidance of Program Director, Kevin Meehan, and Assistant Program Director, Jennifer Grass, apprentices learn about organic gardening, animal husbandry and general farm maintenance. Apprentices meet several times a week during the months of May - October. Attendance is flexible. To be considered for this program, prospective apprentices must attend one open house event to ensure the program is a fit. *\*New apprentice applications are limited to grades 5-8.* For more information, visit our website ([www.amblerfarm.org](http://www.amblerfarm.org)). Questions? Please contact Jennifer Grass ([jennifer@amblerfarm.org](mailto:jennifer@amblerfarm.org)).

### **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!

### **Class Project 2025 Kickoff Meeting**

Attention 7th grade parents! Orientation meetings for Class Project 2025 will be held on Monday, March 2nd. Join us for a meeting at Comstock Community Center at either 10:00 a.m. or 7:30 p.m. The same information will be presented at both meetings. Come learn all about the Project 2025 and how you can be a part of it! For the past 30 years, the Wilton Class Projects have been bringing parents together to improve connection and communication as well as providing substance-free social activities for students in grades 7 to 12. Learn more about the Class Projects at [www.wiltonyouth.org/youth-programs](http://www.wiltonyouth.org/youth-programs) Questions? Contact Eva Beshlian, the Class Projects Coordinator for Wilton Youth Council, at [eva@beshlian.com](mailto:eva@beshlian.com).

### **Technology Month**

March is Technology Month at Wilton Youth Council. Follow us on [Facebook](#) for helpful articles on managing all things digital, from social media to video games. We also hope you'll join us for two special presentations in March. Both events are free and open to parents with kids of all ages and students in middle school and up.

#### **1. LIKE: The Impact of Social Media on Our Lives**

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

7:00 p.m. at the Wilton High School Little Theater

Join us for a screening of LIKE, a documentary film that explores the impact of social media on our lives. The screening will be followed by a discussion with Susan Bauerfeld, PhD, licensed clinical psychologist, Chris Parrott, BPS, chartered counseling psychologist as well as Libby LaRoche, undergraduate student from Western Connecticut State University, who will share the perspective of a digital native.

#### **2. Raising the Touch Screen Generation: The Role of Technology in Our Children's Lives**

Tuesday, March 24, 2020

10:00 - 11:30 a.m. OR 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. (Two opportunities!) at the Wilton Library

In this informative discussion, cognitive psychologist and former university professor Alicia Farrell Ph.D. will talk about the fine line between healthy and unhealthy technology use (screen-time, social media, entertainment) and how parents, mentors and educators can help children walk it. Visit [www.wiltonyouth.org/events](http://www.wiltonyouth.org/events) for more information and email Genevieve Eason at [geason@wiltonyouth.org](mailto:geason@wiltonyouth.org) with questions.

### 3. In Search of Greatness

Wednesday, April 1, 2020

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at Trackside Teen Center

Join the **Free Play Matters Task Force** and **Wilton Soccer Association** for a free screening of **In Search of Greatness**. The screening will be followed by a discussion with Chad Upshaw, Former NFL Player. Visit [www.wiltonyouth.org/events](http://www.wiltonyouth.org/events) for more information and email Genevieve Eason at [geason@wiltonyouth.org](mailto:geason@wiltonyouth.org) with questions.

#### NAMI

Feel like you have no one to talk with about your child's challenging behavior? You are not alone. National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Child and Adolescent Network (CAN) Support Group is for parents of children with behavioral, emotional and mental health issues. The meeting is free, confidential, safe and led by trained and certified 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 meetings are Mondays February 24th and March 23rd, from 10:00-11:30 a.m. at G&B Cultural Center, 49 New Street, Wilton. For more info, contact Beth at 203-984-0123 or [Beth44es@gmail.com](mailto:Beth44es@gmail.com); or Vanessa at [EliasVanessa5@gmail.com](mailto:EliasVanessa5@gmail.com), or text 203-970-4130. You can also visit <http://www.namisouthwestct.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](mailto:middlebrookmessenger@gmail.com).