



## *Middlebrook PTA Messenger* Sept 2, 2018

### Middlebrook Quick calendar

Tuesday	Sept.	4	Wakey, wakey, kids! It's BACK TO SCHOOL
Thursday	Sept	6	Parent Coffee for those new to Wilton 9:00-10:00 am
Thursday	Sept	6	Brown Bag Lunch with Principal Feltz 1:00-2:00 pm
Monday	Sept	10	<b>NO SCHOOL- District Offices Closed</b>
Wednesday	Sept	12	School Photo Day
Wednesday	Sept	19	<b>NO SCHOOL- District Offices Closed</b>
Friday	Sept	21	MB PTA Meeting- First of the Year at 9:00 am
Monday	Sept	24	6th Grade Parent Open House 7:00-8:30 pm
Tuesday	Sept	25	7th Grade Parent Open House 7:00-8:00 pm
Thursday	Sept	27	Lockdown Drill
Thursday	Sept	27	8th Grade Parent Open House 7:00-8:00 pm

### Middlebrook Six Day Cycle

Monday	September	3	NO SCHOOL
Tuesday	September	4	Day 1
Wednesday	September	5	Day 2
Thursday	September	6	Day 3
Friday	September	7	Day 4

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### Note from the President:

We're baaack! I'd like to think we are slowly eased back into the routine, but from the looks of this Quick Calendar and my own calendar, no such luck. September is a busy month at Middlebrook, which is why the PTA sends out this handy Messenger every Sunday-- so you know what to expect each week. Be sure to read on to learn more about Middlebrook's happenings.

### SCHOOL NEWS

#### Online PTA Membership and Directories

Join the PTA and show your support for all of the programs and activities we organize each school year. Student Assemblies, Outdoor Classroom, Media Center Supplies, Activity Nights, Science & Engineering Fair, Social Opportunities, Weekly Messenger, Photo Day, Teacher and Staff Appreciation Events and Soaring Ahead are just a few of the programs our PTA supports. When you join, you will gain instant access to our online directory that is desktop and mobile device friendly, just download the app.

Join here, and use the code - 'wilton'

[https://mobilearg.com/schooldirectory/school\\_directory\\_parent\\_register.html](https://mobilearg.com/schooldirectory/school_directory_parent_register.html)

Parents please update your profiles to include email and cell phone numbers! One easy spot to register for all your kids' PTAs and make a donation at the same time! Questions? Email our **Membership VP Laura Rowley at [rowleylg@gmail.com](mailto:rowleylg@gmail.com)** .

#### Order Gym Clothes Today!

It's not too late to order gym clothes through the PTA --our sale ends late Monday night. Just go to [www.middlebrookpta.org](http://www.middlebrookpta.org) and click on Shop. Everything you order will be delivered to your student at school in about 10 days. It's a great way to support the PTA and scratch that retail therapy itch.

#### Volunteer!

Volunteering is a great way to know your child's school and be a part of the Middlebrook community. **We currently are in need of co-chairs for 7th Grade Activity Night on October 26.** If you're interested in helping email Meire Mouracade at [mouracadefamily4@gmail.com](mailto:mouracadefamily4@gmail.com)

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### **Photo Day: Wednesday September 12**

Hopefully you have all received an email from **LifeTouch** about **Photo Day on Wednesday, September 12**. If not, its very easy to order photos - please go online to [lifetouch.com](http://lifetouch.com) and follow prompts. There is a large variety of packages to choose from - all sizes and price ranges! However please note if you choose not to order any school photos, your child's photo will still be taken for the yearbook, so they still may want to dress appropriately. Typically your student will have their photos taken during the science period (although not guaranteed).

If you have any questions, please contact photo chairs: Shirin Dorne ([shirin.dorne@gmail.com](mailto:shirin.dorne@gmail.com)) or Patricia Brandt ([brandtsan@yahoo.com](mailto:brandtsan@yahoo.com))

### **6th Grade Activity Night: Friday October 19**

7-9:00pm \$5 entrance fee at the door with DJ, Snacks, Open Gym, Games and Fun with Friends! PARENTS: We need chaperones! If you'd like to volunteer, contact Artie Rokkam at [artierokkam@gmail.com](mailto:artierokkam@gmail.com)

### **Parent Advisory Board will soon be a Special Education PTA**

Ou first meeting will be held on Wednesday September 5th beginning at 9:15 in the Zellner Gallery at the Clune Center. Please join us to work with our schools, staff, families, PTAs and administration to help grow and support our Special Education resources and programming!

### **Stop and Shop A+ Rewards Program**

Those families who frequent Stop & Shop can support Middlebrook through the Stop & Shop's A+ Rewards program. The program gives money to our school based on all of your purchases made September 7, 2018- March 16, 2019. It does not cost you anything and does not impact your gas points. You can sign up directly online at [www.stopandshop.com/school-rewards/](http://www.stopandshop.com/school-rewards/) --spread the word to friends and neighbors that we would love to have them support Middlebrook through this program. Even extended family that does not live in Connecticut can sign up if they shop at Stop & Shop. The funds raised will be used for projects that help Middlebrook feel like a fun and friendly place through groups including Team Change and Kindness Club. Of course, we are not asking anyone to change their shopping habits or switch stores! This is just an easy way to take advantage of no-cost fundraising with folks who already use Stop & Shop.

### **Box Tops for Education**

Please Support This Effort! Please donate your Box Tops to Middlebrook School. Box Tops for Education can be found on hundreds of everyday products from companies like Food Should Taste Good, Yoplait, Kleenex, Scott, Ziploc, Hefty, Old El Paso, Green Giant, Land O Lakes, and Hanes. Collection boxes are located in the front reception booth, the media center, and the teachers' lounge.

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Proceeds from Box Tops go directly to the school to help buy new equipment and supplies. Last year we raised over \$1000! That works out to just 10 box tops per student! If you would like more information about this program, including participating brands, visit [www.btfe.com](http://www.btfe.com), or contact Jennifer Acerra- Markey at [jtm4jla@optonline.net](mailto:jtm4jla@optonline.net).

### Odyssey of The Mind

This national competition fosters teamwork and divergent thinking. Teams of seven students work from September to March to solve a long term problem and work on their spontaneous problem solving skills. Visit [www.ctom.org](http://www.ctom.org) for more information about Odyssey. To get involved with a Middlebrook team, please email Nicola Davies - [nicoladavies@outlook.com](mailto:nicoladavies@outlook.com).

### Science & Engineering Fair Tuesday January 22 (snow date January 31)

The Fair invites students to explore and expand their understanding of a science or engineering related topic. Students, working independently or in teams of two, will:

- develop a hypothesis
- conduct their own experiment
- draw conclusions
- organize results into a visual display
- present their project to judges

**Registration packets** and a list of important dates will be made available on the PTA website [www.middlebrookpta.org](http://www.middlebrookpta.org) **on October 15**. A number of help sessions conducted by our science teachers and volunteers will be available both before and after **entry forms are due Friday, November 30th**. The Middlebrook Science & Engineering Fair is sponsored by the Middlebrook PTA and the Wilton Education Foundation. For questions or additional information contact **Madhavi Sharma Vallabhajosula** → [madhavi\\_sharma@hotmail.com](mailto:madhavi_sharma@hotmail.com)

### Media Center Volunteers

The media staff would greatly appreciate your help in the school Media Center to assist with a variety of projects. Shifts are extremely flexible- you can pick the time and day that works best for you! Can be weekly/ biweekly/monthly, or just periodically throughout the year! Please contact Claire Carbonier at [carbos@optonline.net](mailto:carbos@optonline.net)

### Project Adventure is Looking for Project Adventure Volunteers!

Project Adventure is one of the only opportunities you have to volunteer at Middlebrook and work with your child! Middlebrook's PE Department offers students a chance to climb, swing, and belay on

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an outdoor ropes course in Fall and an indoor course in Winter. Adults are needed to assist students, the more volunteers the more opportunities the students have to climb! You can sign up for as little or as much time as you like, but you must take a belay training course and become certified (Rock Climb Fairfield works great). If you are interested in Project Adventure or have any questions please contact Renee Rafferty at [raffertyrenee@gmail.com](mailto:raffertyrenee@gmail.com) or Margo Silvian at [margosilvian@me.com](mailto:margosilvian@me.com)

### **PTA Board 2018-19**

Hillary Morrissy, President

Laura Rowley, Vice President

Jackie Shaw, Treasurer

Chandra Ring, Secretary

Kim Hall, Parent at Large

### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

#### **Class Project 2023**

The CLASS OF 2023 online store is OPEN!

<http://www.warriorclass2023.wixsite.com/mysite/store>

Just in time for back to school shopping, these shorts and t-shirts are great for school, sports and gym clothes!

Items available to order:

- NEW Boys & Girls 2023 logo shorts
- 2023 T-shirt, now with 3 color options: Carolina Blue (new!), White, Navy
- 2023 magnet, great for cars and lockers!

All items are available to order online and pick up at the Wilton Sport shop when you receive a call that the order is ready.

Over the next five years, Project 2023 will have informational, social, community service and fundraising events, culminating in senior year when the Class Project parent volunteers organize a Post-Graduation Party (PGP) for the students. The purpose of the PGP is to have an all-night event where all students are entertained, fed and most importantly included and safe. It is a parent-driven event that fosters community and is accessible to all. Please visit our website (<https://warriorclass2023.wixsite.com/mysite>) and join our Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=WYC%20Class%20Project%202023%20-%20Closed%20Group%20-%20Parents%20only>) for more information.

To become involved with the Project 2023 planning group, email [warriorclass2023@gmail.com](mailto:warriorclass2023@gmail.com).

#### **Wilton Youth Council:**

**Wilton Youth Council** (WYC) officials were thrilled with residents' response to the **first Big Block Party**

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**Weekend.** In a continued effort to strengthen neighborhood connections and create opportunity for face-to-face conversation, Wilton Youth Council's **Free Play Matters Task Force** is encouraging participation in the next Wilton's Big Block Party Weekend.

With a theme, "Building community one block at a time," the second town-wide weekend is scheduled for **Sept. 15-16**, with each road or neighborhood choosing their own day and time. There are no hard and fast rules for the events, but people are encouraged to think simple and keep it "old-fashioned." The initiative has a two-pronged goal. Organizers hope to connect neighbors for face-to-face interaction and also create more opportunities for free play, since families will get to know one another. The task force hopes that hearing about the success of Wilton's first Big Block Party Weekend in June will inspire residents to get together again or take the opportunity to plan their first gathering.

## Wilton's Big Block Party Weekend

*"Building community one block at a time."*  
In an effort to strengthen neighborhood connections, Wilton Youth Council's Free Play Task Force is encouraging participation in "Wilton's Big Block Party Weekend."



Dates: September 15 or 16  
Time: TBD by YOU! Location: TBD by YOU!

Let's get together to share some food, fun & conversation!  
We need YOU to plan a simple neighborhood get-together!

Feel Inspired? Be a Block Party Captain!

For more information or with questions, please email  
[wiltonsbigblockpartyweekend@gmail.com](mailto:wiltonsbigblockpartyweekend@gmail.com)



### Looking to Get Involved?

Wilton Youth Council needs you! We have many programs running and this is a great time to get involved! Questions? Email Vanessa Elias at [eliasvanessa5@gmail.com](mailto:eliasvanessa5@gmail.com). Interested in volunteering? Email Suma Iyer at [sumapiyer@gmail.com](mailto:sumapiyer@gmail.com)

### National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

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. These groups are free, confidential, safe and led by trained and certified volunteer facilitators who themselves have had

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personal experiences raising children with these concerns.

The Wilton based support group meets on the 4th Monday of every month and the next meeting is Monday June 18th from 10am-11:30am in the Gilbert & Bennett Cultural Arts Center, [49 New Street, Wilton](#). For more info, contact Beth at [203-984-0123](tel:203-984-0123) or [Beth44es@gmail.com](mailto:Beth44es@gmail.com); or Vanessa at [EliasVanessa5@gmail.com](mailto:EliasVanessa5@gmail.com), or call [203-970-4130](tel:203-970-4130).

**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, email [middlebrookmessenger@gmail.com](mailto:middlebrookmessenger@gmail.com)