

CENTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Digital Backpack

November 3, 2023

Dear CES Families,

Children entering kindergarten must turn 5 years old on or before September 1, 2024 to be eligible for kindergarten in the 2024-2025 school year. This is a change from the previous kindergarten cutoff date of January 1, 2025. Based on the new Connecticut legislation, if your child's 5th birthday falls on September 2, 2024 through August 31, 2025, your child will enter kindergarten in the 2025-2026 school year.

If your child is eligible for kindergarten for the 2024-2025 school year, please contact the Center School office as soon as possible. 860-429-9367 or cesregistration@willingtonct.org

Please see below for important information and upcoming events.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs. Lisa Cushing, Principal (lcushing@willingtonct.org)

Super Bees

Congratulations to our newest Super Bees—Chyles in second grade, Lilly and Nevaeh in fourth grade, and Charlotte in kindergarten!

Chyles is an incredibly kind classmate and role model to her peers. She is a hard worker and a great friend. Lilly and Nevaeh have both been diligent workers all school year and go out of their way to be helpful. Charlotte always starts each day with a smile and comes to the carpet ready to learn. She is a wonderful listener. Great job Super Bees!



Picture Day!

Lifetouch Photography will be here on **Monday, November 6th** to take individual and class photos all day. Photo packages are

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available online and print copies were sent home by your child's teacher.

[Veterans Day](#)

We will have our annual celebration of local veterans with a school-wide assembly **Friday, November 10th from 9:15 to 9:35, followed by a short reception in the cafeteria.** Families with veterans are invited to attend; please email the office at cesoffice@willingtonct.org with the name(s) of family members and their guests so we can plan accordingly. We look forward to seeing you!

PTA News and Dates to Remember

Nov 1st - 23rd: Scripps Fundraiser

Nov 7th - Election Day Bake Sale

Nov 9th - PTA Meeting

Dec 4th-8th - Holiday Shop at Center

Dec 14th - PTA Meeting

Bakers Still Needed for the Election Day Bake Sale - [Sign Up Here!](#)

The PTA is starting their Fall Gift Card Fundraiser. This will go through Nov 23rd. All gift cards purchased have a percentage which gets sent directly to the PTA for Enrichment funds. The PTA is still looking to sponsor a wish list item for each school and any support is appreciated.

Whether you're buying a gift card for your gas or groceries this month or gift cards for your holiday shopping, stop at the **Raise Right Link** to see the hundreds of businesses to purchase from first, and support our Willington Kiddos - [Click Here to Start Your Gift Card Order](#)

Lost & Found

We have collected several winter coats already in Lost & Found, located in the CES cafeteria. If your child is missing a coat, please stop by to look through the growing collection.

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Mark Your Calendar

November

6	Picture Day at CES (with class photos!)
10	Veteran's Day celebration at CES - 9:15 AM
20-21	Parent/Teacher Conferences - Early Dismissal at 1:10
22	Early dismissal at 1:10
23-24	Thanksgiving recess - No School

December

1	Early dismissal at 1:10
8	Pajama Day for Everyone! Wear Pajamas for CCMC Day

Flyers:

Scholastic Book Fair at CES
November Lunch Menu
HMS Food Drive
HMS Yearbooks On Sale
Scripps Fundraiser
PTA Bake Sale Fundraiser
Willington Public Library Thanksgiving Storytime
3D Needle Felting Classes
Willington Public Library Closed for Veterans Day
Social Security Strategies
Donate a Raffle Basket to the Willington Public Library
Cub Scouts
EO Smith Agriscience Open House

Food Services Information – Meal Order Link

★★ We have some exciting news to share! **Starting November 1st, 2023 all meals will be served at no cost to all families for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year. Each student may get one breakfast and one lunch at no cost daily.**



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★ ★ We still encourage families to apply for free or reduced meals. Forms are available on the school website or in the main office at each school. You may also

apply online at

<https://linqconnect.com/public/meal-application/new?identifier=QHNJ5P> ★ ★

★ ★ Any questions please contact Mrs. Knight, sknight@willingtonct.org ★ ★

★ 🍕 Please complete this form to order your child's lunch. If you have more than one child at the school click "Submit Another Response" after hitting submit for the other child. 🍕 ★ This form will be sent out twice a week: once on Wednesday or Thursday and then you can find the link in the Digital Backpack every Friday. ★

🍎 This form is only for lunch. Breakfast will be served grab and go in the cafeteria when the children arrive at school. Children can grab their breakfast and head right to their classroom. 🍎

😊 **PLEASE SUBMIT THIS FORM BY 12:00 p.m. ON SUNDAY 11/5.** 😊

★ ★ Each child must select at least three of the five components on their tray to make a meal, including a fruit or vegetable. Children **MUST** select a fruit or a vegetable with their lunch every day. Without a vegetable or fruit, students will be charged the a la carte price instead of the meal price. For instance, a protein choice, a grain choice and a vegetable would make a complete meal. ★ ★

🍎 Our school district will again be encouraging students to try the new foods being offered. 🍎

★ ★ We are also asking for your help. Please explain the program to your child before they arrive at school. Every student needs to be prepared to select at least one fruit or one vegetable with their breakfast and lunch every day. We are planning our menus to include selections we know students like, as well as many different foods they may not have tried before. Please encourage your child to try these new foods. They just might find a new favorite! ★ ★

🍎 🍎 **FARM TO SCHOOL UPDATE** - Apples, Potatoes and Carrots served this week are locally grown at the Horse Listeners Orchard in Ashford, CT! 🍎 🍎

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If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Knight at sknight@willingtonct.org or [860-487-2107](tel:860-487-2107).

[Link to sign up for lunches for the week of 11/6-11/10](#)

[Link for Preschoolers to sign up for lunches for the week of 11/6-11/9](#)