

CENTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Digital Backpack



December 1, 2023

Dear CES Families,

Mrs. Redding would like to thank everyone for their support of Center School's fall Scholastic Book Fair. We had a tremendous turnout and were able to purchase books for the school library as well as classroom libraries. We were also able to raise funds for future assemblies for Center School students!



Have a wonderful weekend!

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

Winter Gear

Is your Center School student in need of gear for the cold winter months ahead? We would like to help you! Our staff members come together to support our families during the holiday season. Please fill out this [form](#) by December 8th to indicate what items are needed.

CCMC Pajama Day Fundraiser

From connecticutchildrens.org: "PJ Day for the Kids kicks off its 11th year with a mission to not only raise money, but to honor the brave kids fighting cancer at Connecticut Children's Medical Center. Join us as students and businesses across Connecticut and Massachusetts wear their PJs for the kids. Since 2011, hundreds of thousands of children in Connecticut and Massachusetts have worn their PJs to school and, simultaneously, have raised more than \$1,400,000 in support of kids at Connecticut Children's. Each year, PJ Day has inspired more and more schools and businesses across the state of Connecticut to participate."

This year PJ Day for CCMC in Willington is scheduled for **Friday, December 8th**. Everyone is invited to contribute \$1 to this worthy cause; however, students and staff are still encouraged to wear pjs if they do not wish to contribute. **(Note: Preschool PJ Day will be held on Thursday, December 7th)**

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Super Bees

Congratulations to our newest Super Bees—Hunter in PK and Declan in fourth grade! Hunter works very hard in school and is very kind to his friends. He helps to clean up and always follows the rules.

Declan was Super Bee in PE four weeks in a row for showing good sportsmanship and always following directions the first time. Way to go Declan!

Picture Retake Day

Lifetouch has scheduled Center School's picture retake day for **Wednesday, December 13th.**

PTA News and Dates to Remember

- Now through Dec 6th - Final day to place orders is December 6th! 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](#)
 - You can even share with your family and friends so they can order gift cards as well! Just share with them this unique code: **NDYFXHSUF3PU** and they can create an account and place their orders to support your kiddos as well!
- Dec 4th-8th - Holiday Shop at Center. All the elves are excited to see the students!
- Dec 13th-15th - Holiday Shop at Hall! We hope students are as excited to visit the shop as we are to help them find that special gift for their special people!
- Dec 14th - PTA Meeting - Hope to see you there!

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New Kindergarten Eligibility Entry Date

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

Lost & Found

There are **several** winter coats in the CES Lost & Found, located in the cafeteria. Now that the weather is getting colder it is important for students to have warm outerwear for recess. If your child is missing a coat, please stop by to look through Lost & Found.

Mark Your Calendar

December

8 Pajama Day for Everyone! Wear Pajamas for CCMC Day
22-29 Winter recess - No School

January

1 New Years' Day - No School
15 Martin Luther King Day - No School

Flyers:

WPS December Menu
PTA Scripps Fundraiser
PTA Holiday Shop HMS
PTA Holiday Shop CES
WPL Pajama Party

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WPL Holiday Craft Fair

WPL Holiday Storytime and Craft

WPL Raffle

Unified Sports

WPL Visit with Santa

WPL Blind Book Sale

Knights of Columbus Free Coats

Food Services Information – Meal Order Link

★★ 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. ★★

★★ 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 -

<https://lingconnect.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 12/3. 😊

★★ 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

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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. 🍎

★★ 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 served this week are locally grown at the Horse Listeners Orchard in Ashford, CT! 🍎🍎

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 12/4-12/8](#)

[Link for PM Preschoolers to sign up for lunches for the week of 12/4-12/7](#)