

# CENTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Digital Backpack



**December 21, 2023**

Dear CES Families,

From all of us here at Center School, we wish you a peaceful, relaxing and joyous winter break with family and friends. See you back at school on January 2nd!

Warmest regards,

Mrs. Lisa Cushing, Principal ([lcushing@willingtonct.org](mailto:lcushing@willingtonct.org))

### **Save the Date!**

The fourth grade band and chorus showcase will be **Wednesday, January 17th at 6:30 PM** in the Center School all-purpose room. The students have been working hard and look forward to sharing their music with family and friends. Please save the date on your calendar! The suggested dress for the concert is:

- Black (or dark) shirt, pants or skirt, and shoes (no t-shirts or sweatpants, please)
- Please contact either Mrs. Castle at [jcastle@willingtonct.org](mailto:jcastle@willingtonct.org) or Mr. Kennon at [rkennon@willingtonct.org](mailto:rkennon@willingtonct.org) with any questions or concerns.

### **Willington Animal Shelter Food and Toy Drive**

Brownie Troop 65189 is holding a food and toy drive for the Willington Animal Shelter dogs and cats from now until January 5th. The Brownies are collecting canned and dry food, pet treats, pet beds, blankets, gift cards, kitty litter and pet toys. A box is outside the CES main office to collect donations. The animals (and the Brownies) thank you for your support!

### **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

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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](mailto:cesregistration@willingtonct.org)

### **Lost & Found**

Please stop by the CES cafeteria if your child is missing any articles of clothing.

### **Mark Your Calendar**

#### **January**

1	New Years' Day - No School
15	Martin Luther King Day - No School
17	4th Grade Band and Chorus Showcase - 6 PM at CES

### **Flyers:**

WPS January 2024 Menu

WPL Winter Camp

EO Smith Panther Palooza

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

★ ★ Any questions please contact Mrs. Knight, [sknight@willingtonct.org](mailto: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. 🍕 ★

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★ 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 12/31. 😊

★ ★ 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 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](mailto:sknight@willingtonct.org) or [860-487-2107](tel:860-487-2107).

[Link to sign up for lunches for the week of 1/2-1/5](#)

[Link for PM Preschoolers to sign up for lunches for the week of 1/2-1/4](#)