

# CENTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Digital Backpack



**February 9, 2024**

Dear CES Families,

The Super Bowl is this Sunday. Please make sure your child gets plenty of rest for school on Monday. Also,

Wednesday is Valentine's Day. If your child would like to exchange Valentines with classmates, please be sure they have one for each child in their class so that no one is left out. Pencils or stickers are great to include, but please do not send candy or other food with your child's Valentines.



Have a wonderful weekend!

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

### **Preschool Reminder**

Due to the early dismissal for staff development next Thursday, February 15th, the AM preschool ONLY class will attend; there is no PM class that day. The AM class will have lunch at school. Please be sure to sign up here: [Link for AM Preschool students to sign up for lunch for 2/15](#)

### **Pre-Kindergarten Screening & Application Information**

We are now accepting applications for the 2024-2025 school year. (Please see the attached flyer.) The pre-kindergarten program is designed to provide services to children with special education needs within an inclusive setting. Peer models are accepted on a limited basis. Our screening is a brief, yet comprehensive, assessment of a child's pre-academic skills to ensure your child is developing skills appropriately. The selection of peers is made by program staff and administrators based upon previously determined criteria and a play-based screening session. Invitations to the play-based screening will be shared with applicants and their families in April. Eligible children must be three years of age by August 31 and cannot turn 5 before September 1st. Please return the completed application along with the Ages and Stages Questionnaire to Center Elementary School by

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mailing it to Stephanie Bergan or by dropping it off at the Center School office.

**Applications are due by April 3rd.** Applicants will be notified by the end of June if their child was accepted into the program.

### 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 at 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

#### February

|    |                                     |
|----|-------------------------------------|
| 13 | Board of Education meeting 7 PM     |
| 15 | Early dismissal (staff development) |
| 16 | No school (staff development)       |
| 19 | Presidents' Day (no school)         |
| 20 | No school                           |

### PTA dates to remember

**February 14th:** The PTA will have a fun and FREE Valentine's Day Backdrop for students to take pictures during school. A member of the PTA will be taking the picture and sending it to your preferred method of communication via the form attached in today's flyers. If you are unable to print and fill out the form to send back to school, please feel free to email the PTA with the information at [membership.willingtonpta@gmail.com](mailto:membership.willingtonpta@gmail.com)

**February 23rd:** Winter Family Gala - Dress up the family and come on out to HMS for some fun, food, and dancing. The PTA will be sponsoring our second annual Winter Family Gala for \$25 per family. There will be a DJ and a photographer to

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capture fun candid. The PTA will have a concession stand offering hot dogs, chips, and drinks. Cash and cards will both be accepted.

**March 2nd-6th:** Read Across America Week: The PTA will be sponsoring a Read-A-Thon to get kids reading. More info to come.

**March 14th:** 6pm. PTA Meeting at HMS

### Flyers

CES Baby Photos

PTA Spirit Wear

PTA Winter Gala

WPRD March Boston Trip

WPRD Spring Camp

WPL Pokemon Club Anniversary

WPL Leap Day Time Capsule

WPL Adult Book Club

### Food Services Information – Meal Order Link

☀️ Reminder - There is NO Breakfast served on delayed openings ☀️

★★\_Some families received negative balance emails last week. If you have any questions regarding your student's balance please reach out to Stephanie Knight, Food Services Director - [sknight@willingtonct.org](mailto:sknight@willingtonct.org). ★★

★★ 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. ★★

★★ 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 -

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<https://lincconnect.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. 🍕 ★

★ 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 2/11. 😊

★★ 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! ★★

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

[Link to sign up for lunches for the week of 2/12-2/15](#)

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[Link for PM Preschoolers to sign up for lunches for the week of 2/12-2/15](#)