

CENTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Digital Backpack



September 29, 2023

Dear CES Families,

“Rain, rain, go away, come back again another day” ...but not for a while; we’ve had more than enough rain lately!

I have been noticing an inordinate number of toys coming to school each day. Unfortunately problems arise when beloved toys get lost, damaged, or lent to a friend and not returned. Please help us enforce the *no toys at school* rule to avoid any potential problems. Thanks in advance for your help!

See below for important information and upcoming events.

Have a wonderful weekend!

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

PTA News

Penny Wars start on Monday and will continue all next week! Put your spare change towards a great cause! All proceeds from the penny wars fundraiser will go to support the Willington PTA. Containers will be outside the main office. Each penny counts as one positive point for YOUR grade. Dollars are 100 points, \$5 is \$500 points and so on. These points all add up for your grade. Each silver coin counts as negative points for OTHER grades. For example, if you drop a quarter into another grade’s bucket they lose 25 points from their total. At the end of the day next Friday all change/points will be added up and the grade with the most points will win a popcorn and pajama party on Friday, October 13th!

Curriculum Night

Curriculum Night at Center School is next **Thursday, October 5th from 6:00 - 7:00 PM!** This is an opportunity for parents to find out more about what their children are learning every day, including literacy, math, science, social studies and unified arts (physical education, Spanish, library/media, art, and music). ****Please note:** While we absolutely love and adore your children, this is a night for parents/guardians; child care will not be provided.**

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Here is the time frame for Curriculum Night:

	Preschool, Kindergarten, Grade 1	Grades 2, 3 and 4
6:00 - 6:25	Unified Arts (Art, Music, PE, Library, Spanish) - located in the gym	Second, Third and Fourth Grade Classrooms
6:30 - 6:55	Preschool, Kindergarten and First Grade Classrooms	Unified Arts (Art, Music, PE, Library, Spanish) - located in the gym

CES Nature Trail

Speaking of Curriculum Night...some of our fourth graders will be presenting the recently refurbished CES nature trail. As third graders, these students made several improvements to the trail and are excited to present to the CES community on Curriculum Night. This will be a culminating presentation of their

Project Based Learning project started in Fall 2022. The trail will be open at 5:40 PM and close at dusk. If you are attending, please leave time to take a quick walk before or after your visit to your child's classroom. We hope to see you out on the trail!



Super Bees!

We have once again started our PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Supports) initiative called Super Bees! Any staff member who observes a student acting with responsibility, respect or kindness is encouraged to nominate them as a Super Bee. Super Bees will be announced every Friday during morning announcements and will have their photo taken with the cutout to the left. All photos will be displayed in the showcase in the main hallway the following week before going home.

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Congratulations to our Super Bees this week: **Emilia Oancea** and **Adaleia Rovozzo** in Mrs. Watts' second grade class for always doing their best and making responsible and kind choices; and **Travis Horne** and **Aurora Balse**r in Mr. Tormey's second grade class—Travis for being a fantastic role model and an excellent friend to the rest of the class; and Aurora for always being on task and setting a great example for her peers. Great job Super Bees!

Abracabully

Center School is committed to creating a kind and welcoming environment to all students. October is National Bullying Prevention Month; in honor of this, Center School will welcome Michael Kirschner, who runs an anti-bullying/kindness program called Abracabully. The show focuses on the individual, the community, attitudes, respect, and empathy. He will deliver his powerful bullying story and educate students on what to do if they are being bullied or know someone who is. Along with his message, he will perform a magic show!

The assemblies will take place **October 17th** from 9:10-11:10 AM starting with kindergarten, first, and second grade from 9:10 to 9:55. A presentation for third and fourth graders will be held from 10:00 to 10:45. In addition, Mr. Kirschner will provide a mini magic show for preschoolers at 10:55. Thank you to the Willington PTA for covering the cost of this program through enrichment funding!

Reminder from Mrs. Redding in the Library

Please return library books weekly on your library day. When you return your book(s), you get to borrow a new one! Please email aredding@willingtonct.org with any questions.

Picture Day

We had a conflict with our previously scheduled Picture Day so it has been changed to **Monday, November 6th**. This date accommodates all student schedules and Lifetouch will be able to take class photos again!

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Lost & Found


We have collected several items in Lost & Found, located in the CES cafeteria. If your child is missing something, please stop by to look through the growing collection; hopefully you'll find what you've been looking for!

Mark Your Calendar

October

- 2-6 Penny Wars!
- 5 Curriculum Night at CES 6:00 - 7:00 PM
- 6 Early Dismissal at 1:10 – Staff Development (after care available by sign up until 3:30)
- 9 Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day – No School
- 10 Staff Development – No School for Students
- 17 Abracabully - Anti-bullying Magic Show for PK - Grade 4

November

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

Flyers:

- 2023-2024 School Calendar
- WPS October Menu
- WPS Substitutes Needed
- Interscholastic Sports Accident Plan
- PTA of Willington Membership/Fundraiser
- PTA of Willington Holiday Shop Volunteers Needed
- PTA of Willington Penny Wars
- PTA of Willington Lyman Orchards Fundraiser
- PTA of Willington Event Dates
- PTA of Willington Meet the BOE Candidates

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WPL Free Flu Clinic for kids

Food Services Information – Meal Order Link

★ ★ One breakfast will be served daily at no cost to ALL students. Lunch is returning back to full pay this year. Lunch will be \$2.85 for students. If your student qualifies for free or reduced meals, lunch will be at no cost. ★ ★

We encourage families to apply for free and reduced meals. Link for F/R form:

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

Paper forms are available in the front office at each school and are also available on the school website. ★ ★

Please sign your children up for meals by **12:00pm on Sunday 10/1**.

****Please be sure this is completed in a timely manner so we are able to provide lunch for your child in the upcoming week. ****

★ ★ Please go over this order form with your children. We have a lot of children saying they don't like certain items that they are signed up for. If you're unsure if your child likes something or not, please do this order form with them. We have students changing their mind and it is holding up the lunch line. Thank you! ★ ★
Reminder- lunch link is only for CES Students. HMS students are coming through the lunch line and choosing from a variety of options.

BREAKFAST:

★ ALL Students will receive a Breakfast meal at No Cost, regardless of their free/reduced lunch status. ★

LUNCH:

★ Students eligible for free/reduced meals will receive a lunch meal at no cost. ★

★ Students not eligible for free/reduced-priced meals will receive a free breakfast through the CSDE STABLE funding. However, they will still be charged the full lunch price of \$2.85. ★

🍏 🍏 FARM TO SCHOOL UPDATE - Apples 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.

[Link to sign up for lunches for the week of 10/2-10/6](#)