

Center School Digital Backpack

April 8, 2016

[Click here-----CES Flyers-----Click here](#)

If this link does not work, go to

<http://www.centerelementary.ct.wde.schoolinsites.com/>

Bracelets for Heifer Project at School Store

Ms. Mack's third grade class recently read the true story, *Beatrice's Goat*. In the story, Beatrice's family received the gift of a goat from a foundation called "Heifer International". The goat provided the family with nutrition and income and drastically changed their lives for the better. Ms. Mack's class wants to change someone's life for the better by purchasing a goat through the same foundation so they made bracelets that will be sold at the school store next week (April 11-15)! Each bracelet will cost \$1.00 and when students purchase a bracelet they will receive the bracelet, a small thank you card explaining where the money is going, and will also sign their name on a heart shaped paper which will be displayed in the cafeteria. Ms. Mack's class is excited to be a part of this fundraiser and hopes to see many students at the school store purchasing bracelets!

No TV Week/Screen Free Week

The PTA and CES will be hosting various activities May 2-6 as part of No TV Week/Screen Free Week. Keep an eye out for a full list of activities in an upcoming Digital Backpack.

Morning Drop-off Parking

Please do your best to get your child to school on time so you can drop them off in the upper parking lot. The drop-off door is managed by staff from 8:15 to 8:40 so please use that door when dropping off your child in the morning. We have had a significant number of parents dropping students off late to school in front of the building which can create an unsafe situation. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Reading Challenge: GOAL MET!

Great news! The students were notified at Center Stage today that they officially met their goal of reading 500,000 minutes this school year. We have set the date (May 27th) for our super soaker reward and the students are extremely excited. Each class will be invited onto the playground for a chance to soak me with a super soaker. I took the opportunity to extend the challenge and told the students we would also invite our retirees onto the playground with me if the students read an additional 150,000 minutes. Please keep encouraging your child to read at home.

Mark Your Calendar

April

- 14 1st grade Celebration of Learning, 6:00-7:00
- 15 Math & Poetry Day

- 18-22 Spring Break, no school
- 26 PTA meeting, 6:30
- 27 SEPTO Meeting, 6:30
- 27 Administrative Professionals Day
- 28 Grade 3 Celebration of Learning/Pasta Dinner 5:00-7:30

May

- 2-6 Staff Appreciation Week
- 2-6 CES Book Fair
- 2-6 Screen Free Week
- 4 Nurse's day
- 13 Earth Day
- 16 K Orientation; no school for kindergarten and preschool students
- 16-27 STAR Testing Window (gr. 2, 3 & 4)
- 17 PTA meeting, 6:30
- 18 SEPTO Meeting, 6:30
- 20 Earth Day rain date
- 26 K Celebration of Learning, 6-7:30
- 27 Center Stage: Beach Day, Super Soaker Day!
- 27 PS Gradebook closes for parents
- 28 PTA road race, Willington Day
- 30 Memorial Day, no school

June

- 3 Center Stage w/Math Field Day
- 7 Flag Day Celebration
- 9 Promotion Ceremony

Flyers Attached

- Internet Safety Concepts Flyers
- PTA Willington Pizza fundraiser
- 25th Annual Willington Day
- WYFSS April Camp
- Willington Public Library: Lego Club, Financial Seminars
- Willington Recreation Department: A Day on your own in Boston
- Willington Recreation Department: Safe Boating Course
- Willington Hill Fire Department Auxiliary Family Movie Night
- Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars
- WAM Soccer Registration

Previous Digital Backpack Items

PowerSchool

We completed an upgrade to our student operating system last weekend. Please notify me if you are having any problems logging into PowerSchool, viewing report cards, viewing your child's lunch balance, etc. Please refresh the webpage if you have it saved as a favorite so it will load the new page.

Spirit Day Next Friday

The spirit day for next Friday is create your own super hero day! Center School community members are asked to create their own super hero "costume" to wear to school. Please leave all "implements" at home.

2nd Grade Celebration of Learning

Thank you to our 2nd grade team for hosting a successful celebration of learning last night at Center School. Second grade students participated in multiple events including building a paper airplane and measuring their planes flight distance. A special thank you to Mr. Tormey, Mrs. Walter, Mr. Follett, Ms. Barbash, Ms. Jabick and Ms. Vakos for a wonderful evening. Thank you to all our families that attended the evening as well!

CES Lockdown Drill

The Willington Public Schools developed a plan to manage many types of emergencies. It is important for students to practice the skills that will help keep them safe in the event of a serious emergency. We had an unannounced lockdown drill on Thursday morning and the students and staff efficiently executed the plan. We want our Center School families to feel confident that our school provides our students and staff with a safe and secure environment. It is my hope that we will never have to utilize either plan, but practicing these emergency procedures will help the students and staff implement them efficiently should they ever be needed.

Class Placement

Please review the letter that was sent out last night regarding class placement. We are starting the process of class placement for the 2016-2017 school year and this is a reminder that all placement requests should be directed to me at pstevens@willingtonct.org. This is a significant undertaking and we value your feedback in the process. Please read the letter that was sent last night for further information.

Kindergarten Donates to the Willington Food Pantry!

The kindergartner students collected 194 cans and boxes of food to restock the Willington Food Pantry! The children had an opportunity to practice many math and reading skills with the cans and boxes before the items were delivered. Jenny Arpin, Willington's Director of Youth and Family Services, and her volunteers were excited to see the amount of food donated! The kindergartners are learning how caring makes a difference in their community.

Internet Safety Presentation Success

Scott Driscoll had a wonderful presentation in front of a small crowd at Center School on Monday night. I will be posting his handouts in the Digital Backpack next week.

The Center School Digital Backpack is intended to provide parents with up-to-date school information. The Digital Backpack will be emailed to help us reduce the amount of paper we send home each week. Field trip permission forms, parent sign-off forms, and class specific items will still go home through backpacks, but school-wide announcements including handouts and informational items will be distributed through our *Digital Backpack*. Help us conserve paper by signing up for the *Digital Backpack*. Parents and community members can sign up for the Digital Backpack by emailing jcordier@willingtonct.org and writing subscribe (or unsubscribe) to Center School Digital Backpack.