

November 29, 2015

ISSUE 16

washington WEEKLY News



Important Dates

November

30 Principal's Coffee, 8:45 am, WES

December

- 2 Holiday Shop Set-Up, 3:30 - 8:00 pm, WES Gym
- 3 Holiday Shop & Alternative Gift Market, 9:00 am - 6:00 pm, WES Gym - **Update**
- 17 (DEAR): Best Holiday PJ Day
- 22 Washington Band, Chorus and Orchestra Winter Concert, 2:30 pm
- 23 Holiday Party, 2:45 - 3:20 pm
- 24-31 No School: Holiday Recess

What Day Is It?

11/30: Day 5
12/01: Day 1
12/02: Day 2
12/03: Day 3
12/04: Day 4

Weekly News

Editors: Soncerae Yeager &
Jamie Bissot
WashingtonWeekly@gmail.com

Deadline to Submit:
Tuesday, 5:00 pm

To sign up for the
electronic
Washington Weekly
News,
please contact:
Natalie Kukla
at
nats98@yahoo.com

or click on the button below:

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PTA News

Alternative Gift Market



The Alternative Gift Market (AGM) is taking place this coming Thursday, December 3, along side the Holiday Shop. The AGM is a service provided by the PTA to introduce our children to the idea of philanthropy, providing a "teachable moment" about the existence of people in need and our capacity to make a difference.

Through the Alternative Gift Market, our children and their families can make small donations (\$2) to a charity in honor of a loved one, and then receive a gift card announcing the gesture. The AGM flyer went home last week to give you time to discuss with your children the charities we are sponsoring this year. Each charity focuses on families or children. If you need another copy of the AGM flyer, you can find one [here](#).

~Heather Boylan Clark, AGM Chair

Meeting Minutes for November PTA Meeting



The meeting minutes for the November 19, 2015 PTA meeting can be found [here](#).

Holiday Shop Help

Washington Holiday Shop is Thursday,

Quick Links

[School District Website](#)

[WES Website](#)

[Washington PTA Website](#)

District Calendar:
[2015-2016 Calendar Website](#)

Lunchroom Menu
[November](#)

District Links

[High School Renovation Website](#)

[PA State Health Requirements](#)

December 3, 9:00 am - 6:00 pm.

Exciting news!

The Washington Holiday Shop will have extended hours to 6:00 pm for families and teachers to shop!



The Holiday Shop is this Thursday, December 3 and we are very excited to have our students shop all of the new re-purposed, re-imagined, hand crafted, items. We hope as parents you were excited to see some of the gifts during conferences and are ready to help your students with their shopping list! Click [here](#) to print out your students shopping guide.

Please note because many items are hand crafted, we will have limits this year on items and the number that can be purchased. We will be restocking each half hour session so that there are items for both morning and afternoon. If something sells out when your child walks through, we encourage and invite students and families to stop back after the 3:30 pm bell to see what is available. We will be keeping the shop open until 6:00 pm for faculty and families to shop.

It's also not too late to volunteer. We are still in need of parent volunteers, If you are available to help click here: <http://vols.pt/cLmsgT> to sign up on volunteerspot. Click [here](#) to see the student shopping schedule.

Thank You,

~Amee Oakes, Nicole Gilberg, Molly Simpson, Soncerae Yeager & Julie Toussaint, Holiday Shop Co-Chairs

Washington FUN-draiser at Barnes & Noble



Washington Spirit Day at the South Hills Village Barnes and Noble is on Sunday, December 13! Please join us for a fun day filled with holiday activities. WES students' art work will be displayed and we will enjoy the beautiful music of the 5th Grade Orchestra at 11:00 am and the 5th Grade Band at 11:30

am. Story time with some of our WES teachers begins at 12:00 pm. There will be cupcake decorating, holiday crafts and an Angry Birds Tournament at 2:00 pm. Get some holiday shopping done (and wrapped!) all while Washington earns a portion of the proceeds. Any child who stops by the front table wearing a holiday shirt receives a prize. We hope to see you there.

Parents, we need your help to make the Washington Spirit Day at Barnes and Noble a success. Volunteers are needed to help at the main greeting table, a craft table, cupcake decorating and a gift wrapping table. There will be lots of fun activities for the family. If you can spare an hour on Sunday, December 13, bring the kids and help out our school.

We're using VolunteerSpot (the leading online signup and reminder tool) to organize our upcoming activity.

Please sign up for Washington Spirit Day at Barnes & Noble!

Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

[Volunteer Clearance Policy Info.](#)
[Emergency Medical Contact/Release Information](#)

[Health Services Information](#)

School Flyers/Blogs

Counselor's Corner:
[December](#)

FLES Newsletter:
[Noviembre](#)

FLES Blog:
[Noticias](#)

Art Studio:
[Art-BEAT](#)

[Crossing Guard Information](#)

[Crossing Guard Information](#)
2 Hour Delay Schedule

[Playground Safety Guidelines](#)

[eShare Parent Instructions](#)

[Alternative Gift Market](#)

PTA Forms & Flyers

[2015-2016 PTA Calendar](#)

[PTA Membership Online Form](#)

[Recycling](#)

[Traffic and Safety Information](#)

[November 19, 2015 PTA Meeting Minutes](#)

[Student Shopping Guide](#) -New

[Teacher Holiday Shop Schedule](#)
- New

[Variety Show Sign Up](#)

Community Flyers

Mt. Lebanon Rec Center
[Junior Tennis Clinic](#)
Ages 5-8

[Dance Program](#)
Ages 4-12

[Holiday Craft Class](#)
Ages 4-4th grade

1. Click this link to go to our invitation page on VolunteerSpot: <http://vols.pt/UqYeN4>
2. Enter your email address: (You will NOT need to register an account on VolunteerSpot)
3. Sign up! Choose your spots - VolunteerSpot will send you an automated confirmation and reminders. Easy!

Note: VolunteerSpot does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact me and I can sign you up manually.

~Stephanie Fedro-Byrom, Kelly Latona, and Rosie Pesacreta-Ways and Means Coordinators

Variety Show Sign-Up

It's time again to start thinking about the Variety Show!

Sign up using this link:
<http://forms.mtlsd.org/DisplayForm.asp?FORMID=81561>



The deadline is December 18.

~Allison Carey, Shirley McElhattan & Ameer Oaks, Variety Show Chairs

Lunchtime Club Volunteers Needed



Calling all Volunteers!

Do you want to help with Lunchtime Clubs? Does your child love Lego or Bingo Club? Culture, Fitness or Yoga? Whatever club they like, we need your help!

Lunchtime Clubs provide our students in Grades 1-5 with additional recess options during the winter months of January, February, and March when the temperatures dip. Lunchtime Clubs cannot operate without parent assistance. Last year we had over 70 parent/teacher volunteers for the Lunchtime Clubs, so if you have any availability between 12 noon and 1:00 pm, just once a week for 4 weeks please consider volunteering to help with a club. Help us to continue the wonderful WES tradition of the Lunchtime Clubs and become a parent volunteer. We are looking to find the club that you are interested in and which day and session you can head the club.

Some of the favorite clubs from past years Fitness, Lego, Operation Thanks, Craft, Bingo, Yoga, Book Club, Chess, Sign Language. One new suggestion for this year would be a game club such as Minute to win it. Lunch time clubs run in two sessions January 11- February 5 Second Session starts on February 8-March 4.

Mt. Lebanon School District requires all volunteers who may have contact with a student without a teacher/staff member present to obtain background clearances. To remain in compliance with this policy, all volunteers of WES Lunchtime Clubs will need to provide proof of clearances prior to volunteering. The School District has set up a webpage with all of the volunteer clearance information, including links on how to apply for the clearances,
<http://www.mtlsd.org/parents/volunteerclearances.asp>

To structure our Lunchtime Clubs appropriately, please have all

Mt. Lebanon School District, Public Library, & Recreation Department
[Adult Education Survey](#)

Outreach Teen & Family Services
[Website](#)

Collections Corner

[Keep on Collectin'](#)

[Loyalty Card Registration](#)

[Box Tops Process](#)

clearances completed by December. Clearances that have been obtained in the past will be accepted by Mrs. Davis if they have been completed with in the last two years.

Any questions about Volunteer Clearances or want to sign up to be a Lunchtime Club Volunteer? Contact Heather Damron at Damrongirls3@gmail.com

School News

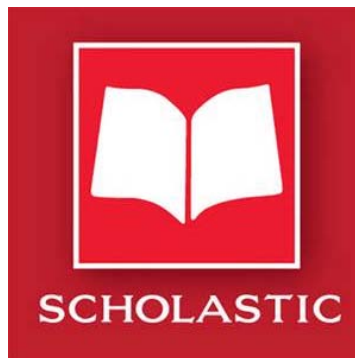
It's Scholastic book time!

Scholastic forms were sent home with your children this past week. The flyers contain some great inexpensive reading options and gift ideas for the readers in your family. There is nothing like a great book to snuggle up with when there is no school.

Ordering from scholastic books is easy and benefits our school. Just log in at www.scholastic.com/readingclub enter the code P6L9Q (Mrs Kelly Latona).

Once online you can access lots of great items. Online payment is either credit card or debit card. Deadline for ordering is Dec 4, 2015 to ensure delivery before winter break. Orders will be sent home with the children.

If you can't access the online version, we will still accept paper order forms. Paper forms need to be accompanied by a check written to scholastic reading club. Any questions/ problems please email me at kellylatona@verizon.net.



Technology in the Classroom Survey

A message from the Director of Technology, Chris Stengel:

Hello Washington Parents,

Beginning this year, the district will be assessing the impact of technology on our students' learning using Clarity's BrightBytes survey tool. The results of this survey will be used to help us continuously improve how we utilize technology in our classrooms and in your child's learning. The survey results will be tied to specific suggestions that are research-based and intended to help us understand where we can utilize our resources to bring about the best outcomes for our students. You can learn more about the survey at <http://www.brightbytes.net>.

Thank you in advance for the 10-15 minutes it should take to complete this survey. We intend to offer it every year. If you have children in multiple schools, you will receive this email with a different survey link for the other schools. If you care to fill it out for each of the schools for which you have children attending, that would also be appreciated.

I am excited to gather this data and share the results with our teachers, parents, and students. Thank you for your contribution!

WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY PARENT SURVEY:
<http://www.BByt.es/TU4LP>

Students in grades 3-12 are also being surveyed. Please ask them to check their @mtlstudents.net email for a similar invitation from me to complete the BrightBytes student survey for their building.

Kleenex Boxes for the Library



The library is need of your used tissue boxes again this year. You maybe wondering what the library is doing with all of your tissue boxes. Well, we are using Kleenex boxes as a "backstop" for the books on the library shelves. You can see the before and after photos. These backstops put an end to the frustrating problem of small books sliding out of sight toward the

back of the shelves. A backstop keeps all of the books pushed to the front edge of the bookshelves so students and teachers can easily read the spine labels.

Basically, we need 3 Kleenex boxes for every bookshelf in the library.

That equals a ton, but, with your help, we are getting there! Every one that is sent in helps. If a student brings a Kleenex box to school, he/she can drop it off in the library. Parents can drop them off in the office.

Both Mrs. Shetter & Mrs. Jones know I'm collecting them & will send them to library. Thanks so much.

-Mrs. Mascoko, Librarian



Community News

Adult Education Survey

LIVE. LEARN. STAY. PLAY.



The Mt. Lebanon Public Library, The Recreation Department and The School District Adult Education Department have teamed up. We're taking the community's "adult education pulse" to discover what

types of programs spark your curiosity.

Help us put together a comprehensive cultural, educational and recreational community-wide Adult Education Program Schedule by clicking on the link below and taking our brief survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VDNVLNC>

Keep on Collectin'

Here at Collections Corner, we are thankful for all of our wonderful Washington families



who shop at Giant Eagle, Target, and Shop 'N Save and who collect Box Tops, Labels for Education, and My Coke Rewards to help support our

children at Washington Elementary.
-Amy Olson and Diana Kierzkowski, Collections Corner Co-Chairs

Washington Elementary School

Principal: Mary Kay Davis

PTA President: Julie Toussaint, julietoussaint@gmail.com

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