

Dear Stony Brook Families,

If your child was absent when we had school pictures taken or if you want your child's picture retaken, we will have an opportunity for picture retakes on Thursday, October 19 in the morning. Students can use the original order form or pick up a new form in the main office. If your child is having their pictures retaken, they should bring the original package to the photographer on retake day and no order form is necessary.

This week we reviewed the safety plans and evacuation procedures to our two rally points with students in Advisory. Next week we will have a practice evacuation to each of the rally points. While we know the importance of everyone knowing the procedures in the unlikely event of an emergency, we know that it can cause some anxiety. When we practice our evacuations, we will only use language that the 'building is on alert' and direct students to evacuate. We will assure them all that it is a drill and that it is practice. We work very hard to ensure that our students know what to do in the event of an emergency without causing unnecessary worry.

We do not have school on Monday in observance of Indigenous People's Day. Enjoy the long weekend!

Sincerely,
Allison and Rick

Below is important information for families:

Real Kids Wear Pink

We will be raising money and awareness to support the American Cancer Society with the following events this month:

- *Friday, October 20th is **Real Kids Wear Pink Day**. We encourage all the students and teachers to wear their pink gear!
- *Friday, October 20th we will have a **cornhole tournament** on the back fields at Stony Brook from 2:00-3:30 for interested students and staff. The entrance fee is \$10.00 per pair or \$5.00 for a single.
- *Penny Wars will be the week of October 16-20. There will be three jars on each floor (one for each grade level) and students can put pennies in their grade level jar to add points for their grade, and they can put nickels, dimes, quarters, and bills in other grade level jars to take points away from those grades.
- *We are going to raffle off a chance to **ride to school in the pink police cruiser** again this year. Students will be able to purchase raffle tickets in school—we will share where and when they can purchase raffle tickets and we will draw the winner before October 20th.
- *We will be selling pink merchandise for students to wear on **RKWP** day in the lobby during advisory starting next week.

Health Forms

There are a number of required health forms that we are currently collecting:

**Please be sure to return your emergency card as soon as possible.

**The online forms for life threatening allergies and asthma can be found on the website and by clicking [HERE](#).

**All 7th graders need an updated physical with immunizations. Please email or send in a copy of your child's physical to sodonnell@westfordk12.us

Grades 6 and 8 Health Classes

If your child is in grade 6 or grade 8, please read the linked letters regarding units of study in Health class and about opting out of certain aspects of the curriculum.

**Click here for the [Grade 6 Letter](#).

**Click here for the [Grade 8 Letter](#).

8th Grade Baby Photos for Yearbook

If you would like to include a baby photo of your 8th grader in the Stony Brook Yearbook, please upload your photo [HERE](#)! **Deadline is 10/18.**

Yearbook

You can get a 10% discount if you purchase a 2023-2024 yearbook until October 31, 2023. Students will bring home fliers as well. Click on this link: <https://www.treering.com/purchase?PassCode=1015224146213733>

PTO "No Fuss" Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who has already contributed to the SBSPTO's [ANNUAL "NO-FUSS" FUNDRAISER](#). If you have not yet had a chance to contribute, please [DONATE HERE](#) using PayPal or a credit or debit card. No PayPal account is required. All donations are tax-deductible and collected funds go toward sponsoring events and items that benefit the students of Stony Brook School.

We have EXTENDED OUR DEADLINE TO October 31, 2023

The suggested donation is \$60 PER STUDENT or \$100 PER FAMILY, but any amount is greatly appreciated.

Please click on the link to [DONATE HERE](#) using PayPal or a credit or debit card. No PayPal account is required. **If you prefer to donate by check** you can send it to the Main Office. Checks should be made **payable to 'WEPTO-Stony Brook School'**. Kindly put it in an envelope addressed to SBSPTO and include your name and email address in it.



Learn More about SBSPTO [HERE](#)

Westford Police Hosting Free Movie Night on Sunday, 10/8, at WA

Westford Police will be hosting a movie night this Sunday on the softball field at Westford Academy. They will show Hocus Pocus and it will begin at 5 pm. Please click [HERE](#) for more information.

Caring for Your Mental Health Presentation

On Wednesday, October 11, at 7 pm, there will be a presentation at St. Catherine's Church. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Calmer Con Boston–Saturday, 10/21

Calm Passion is a 501(c)3 Registered Nonprofit Organization whose mission is to create more accessible and accommodating family events to meet the needs of those with autism, sensory processing, and anxiety concerns. Calm Passion, in association with the Boston Comic Art Foundation, will hold Calmer Con Boston on October 21, 2023 at the Meadowbrook School located in Weston. This is a free event, and prior registration is required to assure they maintain appropriate staffing and crowd levels during the convention. There are two sessions, each functioning as their own complete event, which allows their team to service twice as many attendees while also maintaining proper sensory levels throughout the day.

There will be many of the typical comic convention activities, such as having costumed superheroes, princesses, and Star Wars characters in attendance. We also feature artists, vendors, photo opportunities, and costume contests. On top of these typical comic convention activities, the Calm Passion team has added things like brick building, art, Superhero Academy, and Jedi Training spaces to support the wide range of interests of our attendees. We also provide tables for professional service providers and nonprofits to expose families to services they may not know exist in their communities. Everything is designed with sensory and space accommodations in mind, including a Calmer Space where attendees can relax and recharge in a sensory neutral environment before returning to enjoy more of the fun.

We are also very excited to announce that our Special Guest for Calmer Con Boston is the artist of the extremely popular Ordinary People Change the World series of books, which is also the inspiration for PBS's Xavier Riddle, **Christopher Eliopoulos!**

Registration for Calmer Con Boston and more information about this family friendly can be found here: www.calmercon.org

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS PRESENTATION-Monday, 10/23

OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH
LIGHT UP THE TOWN PURPLE!

The Westford Coalition for Non-Violence, WCNV will be providing a PowerPoint Presentation on "Healthy Relationships, Understanding Abuse, Setting Boundaries, and Identifying Warning Signs," followed by guided meditation with our Regional Community Health & Wellness Coordinator.

This content may be triggering or disturbing to some participants.

Date: Monday, October 23, 2023

Time: 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM, followed by 10 min of guided meditation.

Location: J.V. Fletcher Library, 50 Main Street, Westford MA, Main Meeting Room

Register: By clicking on this link

<https://westfordlibrary.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/westford-health-dept-healthy-relationships/>

NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS, NAMI ENDING THE SILENCE PRESENTATION

NAMI Ending the Silence: Learn about the warning signs of mental health conditions and what steps to take if you or a loved one are showing symptoms of a mental health condition. This presentation is designed for parents/guardians and family members of K-12 students. Presentations include two leaders: one who shares an informative presentation and a young adult with a mental health condition who shares their journey of

recovery. Audience members can ask questions and gain an understanding of an often-misunderstood topic. Through dialogue, we can help grow the movement to end stigma.

Date: Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Time: 7:00 PM-8:15 PM

Location: J.V. Fletcher Library 50 Main Street, Westford MA, Main Meeting Room

Register by emailing Brittany Nash, bnash@westfordma.gov

Information from the Westford Health Department

The **Flu vaccine clinics for all residents will be at the Westford Academy Cafeteria on Thursday, October 12, and Tuesday, October 17, from 4-8 pm.

****PRE-REGISTER VIA LINK:**

<https://home.color.com/vaccine/register/westford?site=westford-academy>

****Walk-ins are welcome, however, be prepared to wait, as it takes a few minutes to register each person. Please bring your insurance card at your appointment.**

**As of right now, the Health Department is out of free covid test kits. You can go to this government website to order 4 free at home test kits.

<https://special.usps.com/testkits>

**The Health Department provides CPR training, Stop the Bleed training, Yoga/Meditation, Adult and Child Mental Health First Aid if you are ever interested in acquiring the training or certifications.

Trunk or Treat - 10/27

The event will take place on October 27th from 5-7pm at the Westford Academy Senior Parking Lot. Elementary and middle school students will be trick-or-treating out of car trunks that are set up and hosted by various Westford Academy student organizations. There will be candy and treats in the trunks! The students who participate in this event are encouraged to dress in their Halloween costumes.

Attendance - Reporting Absences, Early Dismissals, and Tardies

If your child will be **absent from school, please call the main office at 978-692-2708 and press 1 before 8:30 am to report the absence.

If you need to **dismiss your child early from school, please send in a note with your child on the morning of the dismissal to bring to the main office so they can receive a dismissal slip. A parent/guardian will need to sign the child out at the main office when they pick them up.

If your child arrives at school **after 7:35 am, they need to report to the office to sign in and receive a pass to their class. If your child will arrive **tardy to school after 8:30 am**, please call the main office at 978-692-2708 and press 1 before 8:30 am to report the tardy.

Stony Brook Events Calendar

Throughout the school year we post important events and information on the [Stony Brook Events Calendar](#). This includes holidays and no school days, evening events for families, and after school activities.

Stony Brook's Instagram

If you would like to follow us on Instagram to see what is happening at Stony Brook, please follow us at @sbpanthers.