

Dear Stony Brook Families,

This week really began to feel like fall outside and the learning in our classrooms is in full swing! Students are participating in engaging and meaningful learning experiences and demonstrating what they have learned in creative ways. Many students have also become very involved in after school clubs and sports, which keep the building and school campus very busy after school.

Jack Gantos will be visiting with our 6th graders on Monday morning to share his process for writing. We expect this to be an engaging and informative visit and thank our PTO for supporting this Academic Enrichment Program for our students.

Each year parents/guardians of 6th Grade students as well those 7th and 8th Grade students new to the Stony Brook School are required to complete the two forms listed below. The first verifies that both students **and** parents/guardians have reviewed the Stony Brook Student Handbook. You can find the Student Handbook [HERE](#). The second provides Stony Brook with permission to publish a student's name/photo/work through various community and web-based publications. If you have not already completed these, please click on the two links to do so: [SB Student Handbook](#) and [SB Student Publishing Permission](#). Thank you.

Enjoy the 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.

## **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>

## **News from the SEPAC**

### **Executive Function Virtual Workshop on October 17th @7pm**

Executive functioning skills are a set of mental processes that we use to learn, work and manage our daily lives. Find out more about executive functioning by attending the Westford SEPAC's free virtual event with presenter Kristen Jacobsen, a trained speech-language pathologist and executive function coach and Co-Director at the [Cognitive Connections Executive Function Practice](#).

Kristen provides training and coaching for teachers and professionals nationally. In this practical strategies seminar, parents and professionals will develop a solid understanding of what the executive function skills are and how they impact a student's academic and personal performance. All are welcome to attend this free workshop. This event is offered in partnership by the Westford SEPAC and Office of Special Education and Social Emotional Learning.

Please register to attend this event [HERE](#).

## **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](#)

## **Happy Halloween Party - 10/27 from 7-9 pm at Roudenbush**

Roudenbush is holding the annual Happy Halloween Party for the middle schools! The party is on October 27, from 7pm to 9pm. Tickets are \$10 and are limited! They will have a DJ and all kinds of fun! Please click [HERE](#) for more information. They are also in need of parent volunteers. Here is their [sign-up genius](#).

### **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](http://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/>

### **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.

## **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](mailto:bnash@westfordma.gov)

## **Westford Middle School Junior Ghosts Hockey**

Registration for Westford Middle School Junior Ghosts Hockey is open!

### **Key details:**

\*Open to boys and girls who reside in Westford or attend Westford schools

\*Open to boys and girls in 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade

\*Teams will be formed in early November and entered in the Valley Middle School Hockey League.

\*Teams will be assembled based on the number of players at each level. Some grades may be partially or completely combined with others.

\*There will be no body-checking at any level.

Included in tuition are the following: jersey, socks, games and any practices. Note: Middle school hockey typically only has one pre-season practice. The remainder of the season is games-only. The VMSHL is a "supplemental league," meaning that they are aware that your child already plays on another team. VMSHL tries to schedule games at non-peak times, usually on Sunday or Saturday evenings. If your child's other team is a regular VHL team, they know this, and they also try to specifically avoid scheduling MS games that conflict with your regular VHL games.

### **Season description:**

The season typically begins with a "parity jamboree" in November to set initial parity seedings for the season. There are usually 3-4 parity groupings for each level in VMSHL. Adjustments do get made during the season. There is typically a scheduled practice for each team before the jamboree to hand out uniforms and get the team up and running.

Games are anticipated to begin in mid-December and run up to Feb vacation. All teams make the playoffs, which are single-elimination and run over February vacation.

## **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.