

Dear Stony Brook Families,

We hope you have had a great week! On Wednesday, we held our first ALICE drill, which only included announcements about there being a drill and then directions to go to the rally points. We emphasized that this is a practice, similar to the fire drills we do every year. We expect to hold a second, similar drill in the next few weeks. Students did a very good job of taking it seriously and exiting the building quietly.

As we approach mid-October, students are fully immersed in each of their classes with different daily and longer term assignments, as well as different forms of assessments. Each student has an agenda book that can be used for them to keep track of their assignments. Checking this and talking with your child about their assignments is a good way to help them stay on track and support them if needed.

Our PTO fundraiser ends today. If you have not had a chance to contribute, you can click [HERE](#) to donate. Thank you again to everyone for your support of our educators and the academic enrichment opportunities the PTO provides for our students. You can see an upcoming event in the PTO Update section below.

Allison and Rick

Here is some important information for families:

8th Grade Washington D.C. Trip Information

Our first meeting to discuss the 8th grade Washington D.C. trip will be on Tuesday, October 18, at 6:00 pm in the Stony Brook auditorium. The students will meet in the auditorium during the school day to get information about the trip as well. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Miss Ryle, Mrs. Craig or Mrs. Sweet. The dates of the trip are Wednesday, May 24, through Friday, May 26, 2023.

8th Grade Baby Pictures for Yearbook AND an Extended Discount

The 10% discount for a Stony Brook Yearbook has been extended through the end of October! Click [HERE](#) to reserve your copy today!

If you have an 8th grader, use the same link to upload an adorable baby photo of your child for the yearbook! Email any questions to jtwitchell@westfordk12.us

Picture Retakes will be Thursday, October 20

O'Connor Studios will be at Stony Brook on Thursday, October 20, for picture retakes. If your child was absent they can use the original order form or pick up a new one in the main office. If you are looking to have your child's picture retaken, return your original package to the photographer on retake day. No order form is necessary. If you have any questions about pictures, please contact O'Connor Studios directly at 9786406250 or customerservice@oconnorstudio.com. You can also visit their website at www.oconnorstudio.com to find answers to frequently asked questions.

Keeping Chromebooks Safe from Damage

We have had an increased need for loaner Chromebooks and would like your help in keeping your child's Chromebook safe. Please remind your child about the following:

- **Chromebooks and water do not mix—if a water bottle leaks in a backpack, it will cause damage.
- **Chromebooks need to be held carefully—dropping it may cause the screen to crack.
- **Chromebooks should be stored in a safe place to protect them from heat/cold and weather.

**Chromebooks should be kept in their cases at all times.

**Chromebooks should be plugged in each night and stored in a safe place at home.

**Chromebook chargers should be left at home.

Real Kids Wear Pink

Students will have the opportunity to purchase pink ribbons, pins, bracelets, and rubber ducks, as well as raffle tickets as part of our fundraising efforts for the American Cancer Society. Friday, October 21 is Real Kids Wear Pink Day at Stony Brook. On that day the winner of the raffle will get a ride to school in the pink police cruiser, we will have a cornhole tournament after school, and we are encouraging everyone to wear pink in honor of cancer awareness.

Nashoba Valley Technical High School Visits for 8th Graders

If your 8th grader is interested in applying to Nashoba Valley Technical High School there will be an opportunity to take a tour of the school later this month. Students who are interested should see Mrs. LeBlanc for more information and a permission slip, which will be due Tuesday, October 18.

Halloween Dress Up on October 31

There have been some questions about whether students can dress up in costume on Monday, October 31 for Halloween. The answer is YES! If a student wants to dress up in costume for Halloween that day, they are welcome to do so. Some students may choose not to dress up and that is perfectly fine, as well. There are some guidelines for costumes at school:

- No masks.
- No weapons, sharp objects, chains, or anything that could be perceived as a weapon, damage property, or cause injury.
- No costumes that could be offensive or pose a risk to safety.
- Hats are permitted if part of a costume and not covering the face.

PTO Update

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT PROGRAM: The SBSPTO is thrilled to offer all Gr.6 students the opportunity to attend an in-school presentation by renowned author [Jack Gantos](#) on **Monday, October 17**.

This PTO-sponsored event is entirely funded by our [Annual 'No-Fuss' Fundraiser](#) so please continue to donate to help us reach our goal of \$12000.

If you haven't yet had a chance to donate, please do so [HERE](#) (*No PayPal account needed*) or, send a check payable to **WEPTO-Stony Brook School** to the school. The suggested donation is \$50 per student or \$80 per family, but any amount is greatly appreciated.

APPAREL STORE: Don't forget to check out our [online apparel store](#). All items on the website can be customized with the Stony Brook logo & shipped directly to your home.

Please like us on [Facebook](#) to receive PTO information. Learn more about SBSPTO [HERE](#) & send questions or comments to stonybrookschoolpto@gmail.com.

Westford Youth Basketball

It may be Fall 🍁 but it's time to think BASKETBALL!

Westford Youth Basketball registration is open!

We have programs and leagues for all Westford students/residents... grades 1 thru 12.

For more information and to register now, go to www.westfordhoops.com

Special Town Meeting - October 17

Please attend part or all of Westford's upcoming Special Town Meeting on Monday, October 17, starting at 7 pm in the Westford Academy Gymnasium. There will be a **Family Friendly Area** for those who want to bring the kids and need some extra space. Presentations and vote results will be visible on video screens. Town staff, volunteer committees and department heads have been preparing diligently to fully inform you of the issues at the meeting and allow you to vote with confidence. There are eleven articles to be voted on including funding for a proposed Library expansion, funding for a new municipal building at 51 Main Street and changes to our Zoning Bylaw regarding accessory dwellings. For a full list of articles and other information about Town Meeting check out the links on the Town Moderator page under the Government tab of the Town of Westford website www.westfordma.gov. Town Meeting is the legislative body of our Town. It's up to the voters to determine the rules we live by and how our local tax dollars are spent. Please make the time to attend this important meeting, which should last about two hours. Click [HERE](#) for information about the Special Town Meeting. Please click [HERE](#) for information about the Library Building Project.

Ceremony to honor Captain Joseph Read, participant in the Boston Tea Party is tomorrow

Where: Fairview Cemetery at Main Street & Tadmuck Rd, Westford

When: Saturday, October 15, 1:00 PM

Click [HERE](#) for more information.