

Dear Stony Brook Families,

With no school this past Wednesday, this school week went by very quickly! With the beginning of October we have started our “Real Kids Wear Pink” activities. Please see below for details about our fundraising for the American Cancer Society.

Yesterday morning in advisory students were reminded of safety protocols and there was discussion about different ways that we can keep everyone safe in our school. Next Wednesday we will have an ALICE drill during a long block advisory. Students will be with their advisory teacher when the drill is announced. We will be very clear that this is not a time for panic and our announcement will direct everyone to evacuate the building to one of our two rally points. The goal is for students to practice evacuating the building and going to rally points for further direction. We want students to take this seriously, but we do not want to cause undue anxiety for anyone.

As a reminder, we have extended the deadline for our PTO fundraiser to next Friday, October 14. If you have not had a chance to contribute, you can click [HERE](#) to donate. Thank you so much to everyone for your support of our educators and the academic enrichment opportunities the PTO provides for our students.

Have a wonderful long weekend!

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.

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.

Nashoba Valley Technical High School Visits for 8th Graders

Today our 8th graders had an assembly about the opportunities that Nashoba Valley Technical High School has to offer for grades 9-12. Later in the month there will be an opportunity for 8th graders who are seriously considering attending Nashoba to take a tour of the school. Students who are interested should see Mrs. LeBlanc for more information and a permission slip, which will be due October 18.

TikTok Challenges

Many of our students find TikTok to be very entertaining and it is a place where students can express themselves creatively. Unfortunately over the past couple of years, there have been TikTok challenges that are not positive and can be dangerous and destructive. You may remember the 'Tide Pod Challenge' a few years ago and the 'Bathroom Challenge' last year where school bathrooms were destroyed. There is currently a 'One Chip Challenge' that involves eating a particular chip (Paqui is an example) that is extremely hot and can cause the need for medical attention. We wanted to bring this to your attention so that you are aware of it and can speak with your child about the dangers of this type of behavior.

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](#).

Health Office News

Shannon O'Donnell, our School Nurse, is in the process of reaching out to families who have not submitted required health information. *If you have not submitted the following information please do so at your earliest convenience.*

****Emergency cards** - Required for **ALL students**.

****7th graders**- An updated physical with immunizations is mandated by the state for **ALL 7th graders**. Please email or send in a copy of your child's physical.

****Students with life threatening allergies and asthma**- Required forms:

**[FORM FOR LIFE THREATENING ALLERGIES](#)

**[FORM FOR ASTHMA](#)

Thank you for your help in keeping your children safe and healthy while in school this year.

No Fuss Fundraiser–Deadline extended to 10/14

We have extended the fundraising deadline until Friday, October 14.

Click on this link for more information about the [ANNUAL "NO-FUSS" FUNDRAISER](#).

The goal for this year's fundraiser is \$12000. At this point, participation is less than 30% of families. We are very grateful to the parents who have already donated & humbly request those who haven't to kindly consider contributing.

To donate, click [HERE](#) (No PayPal account needed).

The suggested donation is \$50 per student or \$80 per family, but any amount is greatly appreciated.

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.

PLEASE HELP the PTO reach its goal in order to fulfill its annual commitments to the school which include [Academic Enrichment Programs](#) for the students, [Mini Grants](#) for teachers, a fun-filled Gr.8 Celebration Event for our outgoing students, etc.

MINI-GRANTS

The PTO rolled out the 2022-23 [Mini-Grant](#) program for all Stony Brook staff with the aim of providing an opportunity for all SBS staff to apply for grants to fund the purchase of items that enhance the educational/social/physical experience of students at school but are not usually paid for by the school budget or fall outside the purview of what can be funded by the school/district. These grants are funded entirely by your donations.

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 stonybrookschooldpt@gmail.com

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.

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

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

When: Saturday, October 15, 1:00 PM

Click [HERE](#) for more information.