

Dear Stony Brook Families,

Progress reports have been posted in PowerSchool today. If you have any questions about a grade in a particular class, please reach out to the teacher.

Our Student Leadership Council is holding a can drive to support the Westford Food Pantry through Friday, November 17. They are accepting canned goods, dry goods, and personal items. Students will bring their contributions to Advisory to be tallied and then they will fill the offices of Mr. McElhinney and Ms. Hammer. Thank you in advance for your support of this opportunity for our students to help the community.

A **HUGE** shout out to the 34% of Stony Brook families that donated to our \$12,595 total for our No Fuss Fundraiser! The PTO has shared that if the 100 Stony Brook families that have not yet had a chance to donate, [donated \\$25](#) they would reach our \$15,000 goal. Donations are tax deductible under WEPTO Tax ID 04-3454497. [DONATE HERE!](#)

We have changed how we provide breakfast for students at Stony Brook. When students arrive at 7:25 they can go into the cafeteria to get breakfast. They will need to punch in their ID and there is no cost for the breakfast, which consists of milk, fruit, and a choice of 2 main items (cereal, breakfast bar, bagel, muffin, etc). They will bring the breakfast to their Advisory before school begins at 7:35. We have shared this with students this week and hope that students will participate in the breakfast program.

Sincerely,
Allison and Rick

Below is important information for families:

Some Notes From the Nurse's Office:

Cold and flu season is here. Just a few reminders for if your child isn't feeling well:

**School protocol states any student with a fever of 100.4 F should stay home. They must remain fever free without medication for 24 hours before returning to school.

**If a student is home for vomiting and diarrhea, they must be home for 24 hours from their last episode before returning to school.

**Persistent cough is a reason to stay home. It is disruptive to the classroom and is a reason for dismissal.

**Students go outside during break and during lunch. It is important they wear appropriate clothing for the weather. The cold does not cause illness. But being cold may cause shivering which decreases the immune system.

**The school does not provide cough drops. If you feel your child needs cough drops, you can send some with them.

**Encourage fluids, a balanced diet, and plenty of rest to help combat these illnesses and seasonal issues.

Just a reminder to parents that home medication should not be sent to school with students, and students should not be taking medication unsupervised. If there is medication (over the counter or prescription) that you feel your child needs during school hours, you must bring the medication in, provide the doctor's order, and the medicine must be properly labeled and stored here in the clinic. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions or concerns.

7th Grade parents:

Starting this month, vision, hearing, height, and weight screenings will be taking place. If you would like your child to be opted out, please notify Shannon O'Donnell, the School Nurse, by Friday November 10, 2022 via email at sodonnell@westfordk12.us.

MathCounts

The 2023-2024 MathCounts competition is here! It is a great opportunity to meet young Mathletes across Massachusetts. The MATHCOUNTS Competition Series, created in 1983, is the longest-running MATHCOUNTS program and is open to all 6th-, 7th- and 8th-grade students. You can learn more information from <https://www.mathcounts.org/> Here, we are calling all students with any sort of math skill to come join us and have fun! The first official practice competition round is in the second half of November. Please contact the school team coach, Jinqi Xu, before that. His contact information is xujinqi@hotmail.com

Darba Celebration - Friday, 11/17 at WA

The Westford Academy South Asian Student Association (SASA) is having the second annual Darba (Diwali + Garba) celebration on Friday, November 17th from 6:00 - 10:00 pm in the WA Cafeteria. Aiming to promote South Asian culture within the Westford Academy school environment and providing a sense of belonging for all our students, Darba celebrates the holiday of Diwali, the festival of lights, along with a traditional Indian folk dance, Garba. With food, dance, and other activities, we expect another enjoyable and fun night for all! We hope that you will be able to attend the event, and also help us spread the word to your students, your neighbors, and your families! Darba tickets are on sale now - you can purchase your tickets via Venmo (@wasasa). Please click [HERE](#) for more details.

You can follow SASA on social media for news and updates: @westfordacademysasa (Instagram) and <https://www.facebook.com/westfordacademysasa> (Facebook).

Gift of Giving Campaign at Paper Store to Support WEPTO

Westford Parent Teacher Organization (WEPTO) has partnered with the Paper Store in Westford for their annual "Gift of Giving" charity event that runs 11/20-11/26. Purchase their 2023 Gift of Giving Ornament for \$3.99 and WEPTO will receive \$1 and you will receive a 20% off coupon to be used during your visit. Please see the details on the [flyer](#).

Westford Academy's senior event, LAST NIGHT, is currently looking for more volunteers!

What is Last Night and why should YOU get involved? Last Night is an all-night event for graduating seniors at Westford Academy, allowing them a night of safe fun after graduation! The event takes an army of 250+ volunteers to run each year and is a great opportunity to volunteer and support the community and specifically the graduating students of Westford!

If your children are elementary or middle school aged, this is the PERFECT time to begin volunteering for this incredible culminating event for seniors. This event has been in existence for more than 25 years and will

ONLY continue if parents show up to volunteer their time. Parents of graduating seniors cannot attend the event making it the perfect opportunity for parents of younger students to step up and pay it forward.

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

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](#).