

Dear Stony Brook Families,

Westford police officers greeted our students this morning with the annual “High Five” and it was great to see the smiles as kids entered school this morning. We held our Panthermonium Games today and there was fierce competition among all of our advisory groups. There was a virtual escape room, trivia, a Panther PRIDE poster creation, and the turkey toss. Lots of fun was had by all!

We hope everyone has a relaxing long weekend and enjoys the Thanksgiving holiday.

Sincerely,  
Allison and Rick

**Below is important information for families:**

**Chromebook Charging**

For the past several days we have had more students than usual needing to borrow a Chromebook because theirs has not been charged. Please help us by reminding your child to charge their Chromebook each evening so that it is ready to go for classes each morning.

**8th Grade Class Trips to Boston—Registration due 12/15**

All 8th graders brought home a packet from Capital Tours and a permission slip for the two day trips to Boston on May 22 and May 23. The registration and permission slip are due on December 15. If your child needs a new copy of the information, we have them in the main office.

**8th Grade Class T-Shirts - Order by 12/6**

Our shirt design was created by 8th graders and t-shirts are available in size S-2XL (men’s). Students place their order on the link in their Advisory Google Classroom and then bring in \$15 payment to their Advisory teacher. It can be cash or a check made out to Stony Brook School.

**ELPAC Meeting - Thursday, November 30**

The November ELPAC meeting will be Thursday, November 30, from 6:30-7:30 on Google Meet. Topics will include: ACCESS testing, grading, and report cards. Click [HERE](#) for the flyer with more information and a QR code if you would like to send questions ahead of time. The Google Meet link is on the attached flyer and also [HERE](#). You can contact Helen Xia (xxia@westfordk12.us) about translation.

**SBTA Fundraiser**

A note from Andrea Watson:

Our wonderful SBTA Treasurer, Jenn Masterson, has been working hard on putting together our fall fundraiser. This is an online campaign that allows people to donate with a credit card, Venmo, or Paypal.

A little more about why we are raising money: Since I started here at Stony Brook, I have been slowly updating all of the systems in our performing arts center to make them align with current industry standards and equipment as well as being an easier step-up to the systems at Westford Academy. Through fundraising and generous WEF grants, I have purchased and installed a new light board, new sound board, 2 moving lights, one new spotlight and 5 new LED lights. My goal over the next 3-5 years is to replace all of the conventional lighting with LED lighting. This is for a variety of reasons, including more advanced lighting design capabilities, energy efficiency, and safety concerns (replacing the lightbulbs on conventional lights has to happen much more often and some of them are in locations that make it impossible to get to without a 50 ft ladder).

I have been working with Port Lighting to get a plan in place for this overhaul. The plan for this year is to replace our one older spotlight and our cyclorama lights. The quote for this year's project is about \$20,000.

I hope you consider donating to this cause - it will greatly enhance our future productions and the experiences of all of our students!

The link to the fundraiser can be found here: [SBTA Fundraiser](#)

### **For the Love of Erika Gift Card Donations**

For the Love of Erika is a toy drive started by a former Westford student, Taylor Goodman-Leong. For the Love of Erika's mission is to bring smiles to children in need. This toy drive began in memory of Taylor's friend, Erika, who passed away in 2005. Since then, over 40,000 presents have been collected, wrapped, and delivered to children in various hospitals and shelters throughout New England.

This year, they are committed to supporting the shelters and hospitals that they have worked with for the past 17 years! We are looking for gift card donations. These gift cards will go to more than 200 children residing in local shelters as well as 4 hospitals that we continue to support. Please consider donating gift cards to stores such as Target, Walmart, Marshalls, Homegoods, etc. We aim to provide around \$20 gift cards to each child we are supporting. **This gift card collection will end on Friday, December 15th.** We will have an envelope in the main office to collect any gift card donations.

### **Blanchard School Play - 11/30-12/2**

Winner of the Tony and the Drama Desk Awards for Best Book, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* has charmed audiences across the country with its effortless wit and humor. Featuring a fast-paced, wildly funny and touching book by Rachel Sheinkin and a truly fresh and vibrant score by William Finn, this bee is one unforgettable experience. An eclectic group of six mid-pubescents vie for the spelling championship of a lifetime. While candidly disclosing hilarious and touching stories from their home lives, the tweens spell their way through a series of (potentially made-up) words, hoping never to hear the soul-crushing, pout-inducing, life un-affirming "ding" of the bell that signals a spelling mistake. Six spellers enter; one speller leaves a champion! At least the losers get a juice box. *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* is a delightful den of comedic genius -- a fast-paced crowd pleaser and an instant theater patron favorite.

Three shows all at the Blanchard Middle School, 14 West Street, Westford, MA:

Thursday 11/30 at 7 p.m. performance

Friday, 12/1 at 7 p.m. performance

Saturday 12/2 at 1 p.m. performance (yes, 1 p.m., NOT 2 p.m.)

Tickets on sale beginning Sunday, 11/19/23 via Showtix4U: <https://www.showtix4u.com/event-details/78286>

\$12 for adults

\$10 for students ages 5 through 18

No charge for children under age five

**\*Please email [jottesen@westfordk12.us](mailto:jottesen@westfordk12.us) if you need to purchase accessible seats\***

**Any remaining tickets will be sold 45 minutes prior to each performance in the Blanchard School Lobby for \$15.**

### **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](#).

### **Class of 2025 Pie Fundraiser**

The Class of 2025 is partnering with Mann Orchards to bring you your holiday pies. Each pie costs \$15 with the exception of pecan, costing \$18. The last day to order and pay for your holiday pie through us will be 3 pm on December 2nd during Westford Academy's Holiday Bazaar. Payment must be received by that date in order to secure your order. We will accept cash, check, or myschoolbucks. You should plan to pick up your pre-ordered pies Thursday, December 21st from 4pm-5:30pm at Westford Academy. Click here to [order](#) your pie(s) and click here to [pay via MySchoolBucks](#). Thank you for your support.

### **Festival of Trees, Wreaths, Creative Gingerbread/Gnomes, and More!**

The Westford Family FunFest\* and Westford Rotary Club invite the public and organizations to participate in and visit the 13th Annual Festival of Trees, Wreaths, and Creative Holiday/Cultural & Gingerbread/Gnomes Celebration. The festival will be held at the Westford Regency Inn, 219 Littleton Rd., Westford, from **December 8, 2023, to January 2, 2024**. The Westford Regency Atrium and Lobby and selected other areas will be decorated with trees, wreaths, and creative holiday and gingerbread/gnome creations.

Opening Night Celebration on Friday, **December 8 from 6:30–8:00 pm** with music, cookies, and hot chocolate too. Clarks will be open too. Saturday and Sunday, December 16-17, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Brunch with Santa, including a craft area by Westford Girl Scouts. Music presented by the Westford Girl Scouts. Free photos with Santa will be offered too (bring your own camera). For reservations for Breakfast with Santa, call 978-692-8200, ext. 520, or visit the Westford Regency website or Facebook page. Visit [www.westford.org/funfest](http://www.westford.org/funfest) for details and an application to be part of the festival. Check out the Westford Family FunFest Facebook page. Open to individuals, groups, organizations, and schools, come join in the FUN!!!

### **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.